

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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Hongkong Weekly Press.

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The French Mail of the 8th ultimo arrived on the 11th instant.

The English Mail of the 15th ultimo arrived on the 11th instant.

The Siberian Mail of the 22nd and 23rd ultimo arrived on the 12th instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Judge Lobingier of Manila has imposed imprisonment for one year and the payment of half the costs of the case upon Louis T. Grant, co-defendant with William Kennedy in the illegal importation of opium into the Philippine islands.

It is reported that the late Grand Councillor Chang Chih-tung only left Taels 1,800 in cash when he died, while he owed a certain bank over 30,000 taels.

A native of Tsingtau has recently invented a machine which, it is stated, is likely to revolutionise the straw-braid industry. The manipulation of the apparatus is extremely simple, and it is said that one person can turn out twelvefold more with this machine than by hand. A newspaper representative (before whom experiments were made states that the manufacture, especially of the fine braids, runs very smoothly, while the cheaper and coarser grades do not seem to be so satisfactory. Machines are now being made in Germany, and if the expectations of the inventor are fulfilled, Tsingtau, it is said, may become the world's manufacturing emporium for straw braid.

At a meeting of the Kulangsu (Amoy) Municipal Council, at which there were present Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Chairman), J. S. Fenwick, Lim Nee Kar, J. Mencarini, K. Tsudzurabara, W. Wilson, the Health Officer, Secretary and the Asst. Superintendent of Police. Several letters were read in connection with an application made to the Council by Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, for permission to erect a disinfecting plant in a godown on Kulangsu belonging to Messrs. Tait and Co. and after some discussion, which led to expert opinion being obtained as to the probability of danger from fire, etc., arising from the plant the Council decided to grant the same.

A communication of semi-official aspect has been published by the *Cologne Gazette* to the effect that, as the Harbin incident has been settled to the satisfaction of both the German and the Russian Governments, there is no need to consider further the irritating utterances of the *Novoe Vremya* on the subject. The two Governments are entirely in accord. It is, however, considered desirable to deny, before the fiction obtains wide currency, the assertion that in the spring of this year a special conference was held in Berlin respecting affairs in the Far East, at which the main lines of German policy in Northern Manchuria were worked out, and at which it was resolved to offer positive resistance to Russian influence wherever possible.

Lieut. James H. Stewart, Jun., while out swimming off Polinao Point, near Manila, encountered a large shark. He tried to frighten it away, but the shark after a momentary disappearance rose right under him and seized him by the calf of the leg and carried the victim below. The report adds:—"With the water strangling him he struggled for life against the big brute, striking it in the head with his other foot and with his fists. In this way he finally, with a supreme effort, tore himself loose, leaving the muscles of his leg in the maw of the shark. Striking out with all his might he swam to the surface and headed for the shore. The shark, satisfied with its "pound of flesh" did not follow him. On reaching shore he was in an exhausted condition. He tore up some of his clothes and bound up his injured leg as best he could to stay the flow of blood, and then made for town to seek such surgical assistance as might be at hand. All that could be done was done for him, and he was brought to the Civil Hospital at Manila, where when the last mail left he was reported to be lying in a dangerous condition.

The Roman Catholic Bishop at Seoul has written as follows to the *Seoul Press*:—"A telegram from Tokyo, reproduced by several Japanese and Korean papers here, states that the Korean assassin of the regretted Prince Ito is a Catholic, who was also concerned in the murder of the late Mr. Stevens in America. I am in the right in affirming that the report is absolutely false. No Catholic was ever mixed up with the murder of Mr. Stevens in America or in any manner engaged in any political opposition in this country." It will be observed that this letter does not explicitly deny that the murderer of Prince Ito was a Catholic, but we notice Bishop Mutel was able to give that explicit denial in a telegram to the Roman Catholic Bishop of Tokyo.

An edict has been issued by H. M. the Korean Emperor briefly summing up the meritorious services rendered by Prince Ito to the East, and above all, to Korea, and expressing profound sorrow at his untimely demise. His Majesty especially expresses his appreciation of the Prince's service as Grand Tutor to the Korean Crown Prince. The edict concludes with the statement that H. I. H. Prince Eni Wha has been ordered to Tokyo in order to attend the funeral of the late Grand Tutor, and that he has ordered the Household Department to present to the Prince the posthumous title *Mun Chông*. These two characters are defined as meaning "pre-eminence in morality, wide knowledge, whole-hearted devotion to the fatherland, and self-sacrifice."

For the information of visitors to the famous ruins of Angkor, in Cambodia, General L. de Beylié has published an exceedingly interesting brochure, illustrated by sixteen capital photographic gravures. There exists in Cambodia numerous ancient monuments, some of them dating back to the VI. century, but the most beautiful belong to the period comprised between the IX. and the XIII. centuries. The style of architecture is Indian, but with such modifications in detail and sometimes in principle as to entitle it to be designated Cambodian. The ruins of the great temple or palace of Angkor are worth travelling far to see. The season for making the trip is between September and February. Last month fêtes were held at Angkor, attended by King Sisowath and H.E. the Governor-General of Indo-China, and these attracted a large number of visitors.

A Cantonese interpreter named Chung Ming-hing, employed in the office of the Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Co., was charged at the Mixed Court last week at Shanghai with stealing various sums of money amounting to \$300 during the past two months, and also with forging the name of V. Davies and thereby obtaining a similar amount. It was stated in evidence that suspicions in regard to the accused were aroused by a customer writing to ask why he had not received a receipt for a payment he had made. Enquiries were instituted at the Post Office and these established the guilt of the accused, who had been six years a clerk in the Hongkong Police, a teacher in the Canton Guild School at Shanghai, employed at the Netherlands Consulate-General and in the offices of a French lawyer. He had been stealing registered letters and opening them, and by forging the name of Mr. Davies had been able to obtain payment. The prisoner confessed to having converted a sum of \$300 to his own use in this way, and was sent to prison for a year.

THE TRANSVAAL AND CHINESE LABOUR.

(Daily Press, November 8th.)

Early next year the last of the Chinese coolies who emigrated to South Africa to work in the mines will have returned to China, in fulfilment of the pledges given to the electors of the United Kingdom by the Liberal Party at the last general election. Only a couple of shiploads—between three and four thousand coolies—now remain in South Africa to be repatriated, and while the Liberal Party will be able to go to the country next January in virtuous glee over a pledge fulfilled, they have utterly failed to prove the allegations of "slavery" on which the mandate to repatriate was given and have only succeeded in delivering a serious blow to the prosperity of a Colony which, if it were permitted to manage its own affairs, would continue to flourish. It was contended by the people who raised the cry of "Chinese Slavery" that no necessity existed for the importation of Chinese labour, but as the repatriation has been proceeding the mine-owners in South Africa have been experiencing the greatest difficulty in finding the necessary labour to keep their mines open, and the situation now that some fifty or sixty thousand Chinese have been returned to China has become serious for the industry on which the prosperity of the Transvaal so largely depends. South African interests, however, are not likely to receive much attention in the general election which takes place in the United Kingdom next January, but the matter is almost certain to engage the serious attention of the next Parliament before it is many months old. It will be remembered that just prior to the introduction of Chinese labour into the Transvaal a severe crisis in the mining industry had been reached owing to the scarcity of native labour. A prolongation of the state of affairs then prevailing was regarded as foreshadowing a state of bankruptcy. The Transvaal Legislative Council, by 22 votes to 4, adopted a resolution requesting the Government to introduce a Draft Ordinance providing for the importation of indentured unskilled coloured labourers to supplement the labour of the Witwatersrand. The House of Commons, after warmly discussing the matter, left it to the Transvaal to make the experiment on certain conditions, and at a later date rejected, by 51 votes, a proposal condemning the Ordinance which the Transvaal Legislature had passed. Although it has been asserted that the Chinese as miners are less efficient as well as more costly than the Kaffirs, the statistics of the output of gold during the time the Chinese have been employed in the mines show an immense improvement on previous figures. In 1903 the output was twelve millions, in 1904 it was sixteen millions, in 1905 nearly twenty-one millions; and in 1907, nearly twenty-seven millions and a half. We have not the statistics for last year, but news has for some time past been coming from the Witwatersrand that the output is falling off owing to scarcity of labour, and notwithstanding that much time-saving machinery seems to have been introduced into the mines while the repatriation of Chinese labour has been proceeding.

It cannot be said that the introduction of the Chinese into the Transvaal has produced the evils anticipated, but it has to be confessed that Chinese immigrants have been responsible for an

excessive amount of crime in the Transvaal. There are at the present time, we understand, upwards of two hundred Chinese in the Transvaal serving life sentences for crimes of violence. Those who know the Chinese well can only account for the abnormal percentage of crime on the ground that they are not properly understood and not properly managed by their overseers, and we are not sure that the Imperial Government is altogether free from blame in the matter, for the dispatch of instructions from Downing Street requiring the local authorities of the Transvaal to omit from proclamations for the Transvaal issued for the benefit of the Chinese "all minatory and hortatory sentences," such as are always used in proclamations in China, must have considerably weakened the influence of those who were set in authority over the coolies in South Africa. It is satisfactory to note from mortality returns submitted to Parliament quite recently that in the matter of health, the Chinese in the Transvaal have had a great advantage over the natives. The death rate from all causes during the past five years has been twice as great among the natives as among the Chinese. It says much for the arrangements made for the Chinese by their employers that the returns of deaths from disease among the Chinese during the last three years has been 9, 8, and 6 per 1,000 respectively, while among the natives it was 27, 29 and 28. We cannot doubt that native labour is more plentiful in South Africa now than it was immediately after the war, but it is clear from the wails going up from the Rand that it is still inadequate to the needs of the great industry on which the whole prosperity of the Transvaal depend, and the old problem in the Rand is therefore gradually being re-constituted.

CHINA'S NAVAL AND MILITARY PLANS.

(Daily Press, November 9th.)

The recent departure from China of Prince TSAI HSUN accompanied by Admiral SAH and Sir CHEN-TUNG LIANG CHENG as a Naval Commission to study the naval affairs of foreign countries seems to have raised very high expectations in shipbuilding circles both in Europe and America, but it is not clear from any of the official announcements that have been made in Peking that the purchasing of a fleet or shiploads of ammunition forms any part of the commission. The Prince is merely directed to study the provisions made by other countries for the defence of their territory, trade and commerce, with, of course, the ultimate prospect of China reorganising her naval defences on the lines which the Government, with the advice of the Commission, may deem to be best suited to the needs and circumstances of China. It is true that after the inspection the Commissioners made of China's present naval defences they presented to the Throne some proposals for dock accommodation, gun factories and naval schools at a total estimated cost of five million taels, and recommended the purchase of one battleship, three second-class and three third-class cruisers, two torpedo-boats and two training ships, at an estimated cost of sixteen million taels, and the Commissioners estimated that another two million taels would be needed annually for maintenance—altogether twenty-three million taels. But when the scheme was brought to the notice of the Board of Finance, that much-dunned Department of the Government replied: "We have no funds in the Imperial treasury, and Provincial treasuries are also empty."

But the Board has promised to provide towards the initial cost of the naval programme a sum of five million taels, and to require the Provinces to provide between them thirteen millions, of which our neighbouring provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi provide four—two millions each—and the remaining provinces much smaller contributions, in three cases only a lakh each. This is some evidence of the intention of China to improve her defences. At the same time a big scheme of army reorganisation appears to be in progress, the object of the scheme being the creation of an army consisting of no fewer than 37 divisions, sub-divided into 444 battalions, 111 squadrons of cavalry, 380 batteries, 37 battalions of engineers, and the same number of army trains. By the year 1912 it is hoped to have an army of 14,000 officers and 380,000 men, and by 1920, it is expected to have 1,200,000 men enrolled. It looks magnificent on paper, but seeing that the Chinese Government finds that it is already experiencing the greatest difficulty in making ends meet, the schemes are not likely, we fancy, to mature as soon as their authors rashly predict. Yet when the only obstacle, is want of funds we cannot be too confident in our predictions of failure, for it is really astonishing what the provinces are able to do in the way of finding funds when Peking applies the screw. The Provincial revenues are remarkably elastic. One prediction, however, can be made with the utmost confidence, namely, that these increasing demands upon the Provinces must accelerate the scheme of financial reorganisation which is recognised by the Government to be necessary. Given a thorough reform of her fiscal system, China could easily provide for these naval and military schemes. Sir ROBERT HART a few years ago estimated the possible revenue from a reform of the Land Tax alone at 400 million taels on the basis of ten tael cents per *mow*, and, as Mr. MORSE has remarked, a good illustration of the obscurity which veils the finances of China is furnished by the difference between the reported collection, Tls. 26,000,000, the almost proveable actual collection, Tls. 102,000,000, and the possible collection estimated by high authorities at Tls. 375,000,000 to Tls. 400,000,000. When Sir ROBERT HART made his computation it was with the view of indicating to the Chinese Government how funds could be provided for an adequate defensive force. His scheme included the creation of three naval squadrons, the Northern, Southern and Central, each to consist of ten big ships—battleships and cruisers, 10 second-class cruisers, 10 torpedo-boat destroyers, and 50 torpedo-boats. Nothing has been heard of that scheme since it was submitted in 1904. Half a dozen torpedo boats and four river gunboats have been built for China during the past two years; and that is all. Indeed it would seem to be sheer folly for the Chinese Government to embark on any big scheme of naval expansion before placing the finances of the Empire on a better footing, so that it may be seen from a properly compiled national budget what the carefully estimated expenditure on the defences will amount to each year, and what revenue can be allocated for the purpose. It is very probable that meanwhile the recommendations of the Naval Commission will keep company with those of Sir ROBERT HART, in a musty pigeon-hole.

In some recent garrison orders at Singapore it is stated:—"The Royal Engineers are in possession of an efficacious white ant exterminator, and on being applied to by C. O's. will make the necessary arrangements for applying it." Hongkong could do with some of it.

CHINESE INDIFFERENCE AND BRITISH ANXIETY.

(Daily Press, November 10th.)

Chinese indifference stood out in Hongkong yesterday in strange contrast to British anxiety. By instructions received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies all the local celebrations which had been arranged in honour of the King's birthday—the public holiday, the parade and review of troops, the official dinner, the big Ball at Government House and other minor celebrations—were all postponed till the 25th inst. because the 9th inst. had been chosen for the obsequies of the late Dowager Empress of China. Doubtless this signal expression of British friendship and sympathy is appreciated by the Chinese Government, but we cannot help contrasting this kindly solicitude with the fact that, so far as the three hundred and fifty thousand Chinese who live in Hongkong are concerned, there was yesterday no outward and visible sign of mourning to be seen anywhere. When the late Emperor was buried many Chinese firms as a mark of respect closed their shops. Yesterday there was no suspension of business by the Chinese in the Colony, not even for a single hour, and the theatres and other places of amusement remained open. Much of this must have been true of Canton also, for no announcements have been made of any arrangements for observing the day at Canton as a time of mourning. Some years ago the newspapers of Canton were in the habit of suspending publication on the occasion of the late Empress Dowager's birthday, as well as on the occasion of the birthday of the Emperor, but they ceased to pay this tribute to the Dowager-Empress in her late years. The same distinction has been made in regard to the funerals of the monarchs. This proves to be incorrect. The newspapers, without previous announcement, suspended publication and the day was observed by the military and the students in government schools. There were many signs of public mourning in Canton when the late Emperor was interred, but the newspapers of the Southern Capital have exhibited the utmost unconcern with regard to the arrangements for the funeral of the late Dowager Empress, and the statement has been made to us by Chinese who should know, that it is extremely doubtful whether one Chinese in a hundred in South China, outside the Yamens, knew that the great State funeral was taking place at Peking yesterday. All this adds point to the questions which the Hon. Mr. MURRAY STEWART proposes to ask in the Legislative Council to-morrow. We do not, of course, yet know whether it is really a fact, as suggested in the first question, that the postponement of the King's Birthday celebrations was ordered by the Secretary of State for the Colonies without any previous reference of the matter to, or consultation with, the Government of the Colony, but the semi-official statement that the postponement was in accordance with "confirmatory instructions" from the Secretary of State certainly suggests that only an affirmative reply to Mr. STEWART's first question is to be expected. "Confirmatory" instructions seem to suggest that there were original instructions, and not a request for advice. It was not more than about twelve months ago that the Unofficial Members of Council very properly protested against similar action on the part of the Secretary of State in connection with the closing of the opium divans, and it is much to be regretted that the necessity for a renewed protest has so soon arisen. The questions the Hon. Mr. STEWART proposes

to ask on the subject give careful expression to sentiments which are, we believe, widely entertained in the Colony. Nobody takes up the attitude that this Colony should not under any circumstances have postponed the celebrations; the objection is principally as to the manner in which this has been done. It does not need to be stated that had there been any evidence of intention among the Chinese of the Colony or in the neighbouring city of Canton to make the occasion of the funeral of the late Dowager-Empress a day of mourning, the Colonial Government and the British community would have spontaneously avoided any celebration of the King's birthday which would have been out of harmony with the observance of mourning. Of that we are confident. But seeing that the occasion has been allowed to pass unobserved in any form or manner by the Chinese in the Colony—as well as, apparently, by the people of South China generally except by the officials—the contrast between British anxiety and Chinese indifference is indeed striking. Had the instructions from Downing Street been confined to the postponement of the celebrations at the Legation in Peking and in the Treaty ports of China it would have been perfectly intelligible, but the circumstances scarcely warranted the issue of instructions to the British Colony of Hongkong any more than to the Straits Settlements, where the King's Birthday, we understand, was celebrated on the due date.

RAILWAY INTERESTS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, November 11th.)

The questions which the EARL of STANHOPE has been asking in the House of Lords were doubtless suggested by the outspoken article on this subject which formed one of the series contributed to the *Times* by Mr. VALENTINE CHIROL after his return to London from a brief visit to the Far East. Lord STANHOPE inquired, firstly, whether in view of the German claim for participation in the construction and financing of railways in the Yangtze provinces, Great Britain still recognised Germany's claims to exclusive railway and mining rights in Shantung. According to REUTER's telegram Lord CREWE's answer to this question was that Great Britain had not given to Germany any assurance in the sense indicated, which we take to mean that Great Britain has never at any time given to Germany an undertaking to recognise her claims to exclusive railway and mining rights in Shantung. If that is the meaning the statement was intended to convey, those who have made a careful study of the history of the battle of concessions in China will be aware that, so far as railway rights are concerned, Lord CREWE's statement is not strictly in accordance with history as it has been written in the Blue Books. The China Blue-book, No 1 of 1899, contains the text of an agreement made between representatives of a German Syndicate, the British and Chinese Corporation and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and it is interesting to observe that the first proposal agreed to reads as follows:—"It is desirable for the British and German Governments to agree about the sphere of interest of the two countries regarding the railway constructions in China and to mutually support the interest of either country." This resolution was proposed by the Representative of the German Syndicate, who also proposed the two resolutions defining the respective spheres of German and British interest in China. The German

Syndicate undertook not to compete in the English sphere, and England engaged not to compete in the German sphere. Though no diplomatic notes were exchanged between the two Governments it is made clear that the arrangement made by the financial groups was endorsed by both Governments. Notwithstanding this agreement the Germans, as Dr. MOHRISON pointed out a few months ago, have secured not only a railway connection between the three Treaty Ports on the Yangtze, namely Hankow, Shasi and Ichang, covering two-thirds of the distance Westward to the Szechuan border, but also a branch line running from this main line northward to the important inland "port" of Siangyang, and thence eastward to the Peking-Hankow trunk line. Russia, too, though in 1899 she gave an explicit undertaking to Great Britain "not to seek for her own account, or on behalf of Russian subjects or of others, any railway concessions in the basin of the Yangtze," has recently furnished a loan for railway construction in this sphere. Lord STANHOPE inquired whether in view of this abrogation of the Anglo-Russian Agreement of 1899 British subjects were now free to claim equal opportunity north of the Great Wall. Lord CREWE's reply to this was that the loan did not appear to contravene the Convention. Literally it does not, but it is unquestionably a flagrant violation of the spirit of the agreement. His lordship said it was important to remember the great change which has taken place in China since the Anglo-Russian Agreement was made. Whereas at that time the battle was for railway concessions under foreign control, all railways now being constructed are under the control of the Chinese Government—and presumably in the view of the British Government all danger of foreign "conquest by railway" is removed. But that is not the view of the *Times* correspondent whose letters have recently stimulated public interest in these questions. There is no gainsaying the fact that important political and economic advantages have been lost to Great Britain by the neglect or inability of the Government to secure the due observance of the solemn agreements whereby the Yangtze region was believed to have been conserved as a purely British sphere of influence, and though, as Lord CREWE says, the times have changed in China since those agreements were negotiated, yet it cannot be seriously maintained that the changes warrant the scrapping up of those agreements. Mr. CHIROL has very forcibly pointed out how the permanent stability of China's credit is likely to be impaired by placing at her disposal large amounts of money without adequate guarantees that they will be usefully and honestly expended. It is public knowledge that the Germans acquired their interests in the Yangtze Valley by offering money without the guarantees that the British deemed absolutely essential; and if the British were disposed to take the same risk in Shantung there is nothing in Germany's mining and railway agreement with China to prevent them acquiring either railway or mining interests in Shantung. But they have no inclination at present to compete along those lines. In the view of Mr. CHIROL and many others the Chinese Empire is exposed to the danger of national bankruptcy and ultimate disruption through reckless borrowing to which German finance, it is considered, so willingly lends itself. This is a view the British Government does not apparently take into account, and in any case it is powerless to do anything in the matter. It is China's own concern.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

November 9th was fixed upon many weeks ago for the funeral of the late Dowager Empress of China, who died a year ago. Either H. M.'s Minister at Peking had overlooked until a few days ago the fact that the day appointed for the funeral was the King's birthday, or he had to wait a long time for instructions from Downing Street. It was only a few days ago that the Minister issued telegraphic instructions to the Consuls in China to postpone the birthday festivities at the Treaty ports, and it was not until the 17th that instructions from the Secretary of State reached Hongkong. The two big balls of the season in Hongkong will now be held within a week of each other. The dressmakers of the Colony, who, I am informed, have been working night and day for the past week or more, will enjoy the respite.

The social whirl, however, has begun and entertainments crowd our diaries and make the nights run into the mornings. St. Andrew's Ball is being anticipated with the usual keenness, and the Scottish festival should be the success that it always is.

It is perhaps not inappropriate, with the approach of St. Andrews' Day, to relate the following story which has amused several audiences in Hongkong. The tale is usually told by an Englishman who attempts to mimic the Scot in these words: Aince upon a time there was a King of Scotland who was a great fecker, and ae day he had naething tae dae and he turned tae his prime meenester, Sandy MacPherson, and said: "I dinna ken what we'll dae noo." "Hoo that?" asked Sandy. "We've got nae mair kingdoms to conquer," "Ah," remarked the prime meenester, "there's ane ye have n'a conquered." This roused his majesty, wha wanted tae ken whaur the kingdom was. "The kingdom of heaven," was the reply. "The kingdom of heaven," gasped the astonished king. "Well, ye gang and tell the king o' heaven that the king of Scotland is coming tae invade his territory." Sandy betakes himself frae the royal presence, and he is naturally in a great predicament. Outside the palace he meets the parish meenester, a godly man, wha says tae him, "Noo, Sandy MacPherson, whaur are ye gaun? Ye'll be plannin' mair o' yere theevin' robbin' expeditions." "Na, na," said Sandy, and he told him the object of his errand. "Oh," rejoined the meenester, "that's all right. You tell the King that the King o' Heaven says he can have the kingdom o' heaven for the asking." Back goes Sandy and he presents himself to the King. "Weel," demanded his majesty, "did ye see the King o' Heaven?" "Na," was the cautious answer, "but I saw ane o' his meenesters." "Aye, and what did he say?" His Majesty beamed as he heard the words, and resolving that the magnanimity should be equalled he said—"Well, you go back and tell the King of Heaven from me that for his decency and civility never a Scotsman will set fit in the Kingdom o' Heaven."

When the interval arrived for taking the collection at a local church yesterday morning there was an awkward pause. The gentlemen entrusted with the duty could not discover the collection bags, and they stood aghast until one gentleman of resource rose from his seat and handed a collector his soft felt hat. A smile went round the congregation, and a few felt rewarded for having gone to church that morning. It was a case of "pass the hat for your credit's sake."

I read the other morning of a boy brought before the magistrate for trying to sell a new golf ball which he said he picked up at Deep Water Bay. His conduct is easily understood, but what can be said of the godly man who on a Sunday morning finds on the road at the gate of the church a tennis ball and puts it in his pocket and then walks into church? What are his motives? Does he wish that the unrighteous desecrator of the Sabbath should be punished, to the extent of losing a ball for playing on that day, or is he guilty of simple pilfering?

The Hongkong compositor seems to have been in a particularly humorous vein this last week. In one case he was responsible for making a lady sing "Who'll bury my lavender," and made a boarding-house keeper print the advice "Don't bath in batches." The sea—No, c—in the "bath" was missing. The first bloomer reminds me of the shy young curate who came forward with the belle of the parish at a "Penny Reading" to sing the duet "Oh, that we too were maying"—and wondered why the audience rocked with laughter. It was the mischievous imp of the printing office again. The programme announced that the duet the blushing young couple were to sing was entitled "Oh, that we two were married!"

It is a poor show that Hongkong has made this year in the Interport Shoot. No doubt the correspondent whose letter appeared in the D. P. on Saturday explained correctly enough how it happened that a team which had put up excellent scores in practice failed miserably to repeat the performance on the day of the match. But there is one remark in his letter that calls for a reflection, viz., "The selection for this year's team was very limited." Now, in the days of the Hongkong Rifle Club complaint like this was never heard. How many candidates, I wonder, did the Volunteer Reserve Association furnish for the team? It was expected of this Association that it would do infinitely more than the Rifle Club to produce good shots, but it does not seem that this expectation has yet been fulfilled.

I see Kowloon is trying to vie with the Peak. Its chronicles this week record a snake being killed in a garden.

Overcoats are becoming fashionable. The blanket type adorns the streetscape already.

RODERICK RANDOM.

HONGKONG.

Not a single case of communicable disease of any kind was reported in the Colony last week.

Nearly 24 inches of rain fell in the Colony last month, according to the Observatory report.

Mr. R. F. Brayn has been appointed to act as Local Auditor during the absence of Mr. H. R. Phelps.

A Chinese barber was knocked down by tramcar No. 30 at Tsat-tsz-mui on Monday night and removed to hospital badly injured.

Mr. A. Colbourne Little's name has been added to the list of authorised architects, and Mr. Donald Macdonald's name has been restored to the list.

A notification is published in the *Gazette* that the Governor-in-Council has made a regulation that "no person shall sit or stand upon any part of the railings of Blake Pier."

Regulations for exempting ships' stores from duty have been made by the Governor-in-Council, under section 55 (h) of the Liquors Ordinance, and are published in the *Gazette*.

It is notified in the *Government Gazette* that Thursday, the 25th of November, being the day on which His Majesty's Birthday is ordered to be kept, will be kept as a public holiday.

Mr. W. J. Tatcher's appointment to act as Superintendent of the Botanical and Forestry Department during Mr. Dunn's absence on leave is gazetted.

Lieut.-Col. C. C. Wrigley, A.O.D., Chief Ordnance Officer at Chatham, has been appointed Senior Ordnance Officer in South China.

On Monday morning a Chinese was found in the coolie quarters at the south face of the Beacon Hill tunnel with his head battered in and his body severely bruised. Indications point to murder.

A native who was arrested by Sergeant Macdonald at Yaumati was charged before Mr. E. R. Hallifax at the Magistracy on Nov. 9 with returning from banishment, found guilty, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment and six hours' stocks.

H.M.S. *Kent* came out of dock on Nov. 11th after undergoing an extensive overhaul.

A marriage has been arranged and will shortly take place between Lieut. C. W. Beckwith and Miss Florence Harvey Pinck, of Douglas, Isle of Man.

At the Magistracy on Nov. 8th Mr. Wood sentenced a Chinese to six months' imprisonment and four hours' stocks for stealing twelve bolts of canvas valued at \$200 from Messrs. Shewan, Tomes and Co.'s godown at 24, Des Voeux Road Central.

Inspector Collett charged a native before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Tuesday with returning from banishment and with larceny from 4, Stanley Terrace and 2, Sea View Terrace. Defendant pleaded guilty to two of the charges and the hearing was adjourned.

An old Chinese from Stanley was charged by Sergeant Brazil at the Magistracy on Nov. 10 with keeping an opium divan without a licence, and with being in unlawful possession of a quantity of opium. After hearing the evidence Mr. J. R. Wood imposed a fine of \$100, the alternative being six weeks' imprisonment.

The tartan is seen once more in our midst. The transport *Soudan* arrived here on Nov. 10 from Tientsin, having on board the Cameron Highlanders, who are en route for Bombay. The kilties have disembarked at Stonecutters, where they will be under canvas for ten days. It is reported that the Camerons have made a big list of football fixtures for the time they will be here.

The first practice dance in connection with St. Andrews Ball was held on Nov. 8 and proved very enjoyable. At the opening the attendance was smaller than usual but as the numbers increased so did the zest of the dancers and the last waltz came all too soon. The strathspey and reel did not prove a success, but with more appropriate music this dance should be the great attraction that it usually is.

Detective-Sergeant Appleton arrested 21 gamblers at 230, Hollywood Road on Wednesday night, and twenty of the offenders were charged before Mr. E. R. Hallifax at the Magistracy yesterday. The two keepers of the game were fined \$100 each, and each of the players \$4. The other defendant, who did not appear, was admitted to bail in the sum of \$10, and his bail was estreated.

On Nov. 11 was the anniversary of the birthday of His Majesty King Victor Emmanuel of Italy, and in honour of the occasion Chevalier Volpicelli, the Italian Consul-General, held the usual reception at the Consulate. Captain Mitchell-Taylor, A.D.C., representing His Excellency the Governor, the various Consuls, and numerous officials and civilians called to extend congratulations.

All the approaches to the Roman Catholic Cathedral were thronged on Nov. 7th by people visiting the annual al fresco fête held in the compound in aid of the funds of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. During the afternoon many visitors took advantage of the opportunity to inspect the stalls laden with fancy goods which were ranged round the sides, but at night the populace attended as usual in large numbers. The scene was one of pleasing animation, and in addition to the pleasures of buying and selling the band of the Rajputs played a series of selections. The fête was certainly as successful as its predecessors and the funds of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul should materially benefit.

The police are taking strenuous action to put an end to a practice which is becoming all too flagrant just now. After dark the Central District of Hongkong becomes the happy hunting ground of members of the unfortunate sisterhood, whose unblushing importunities have been the subject of much comment. On Saturday evening members of the detective staff were told off to clear streets of these birds of the night. One woman, after being charged at the police station and admitted to bail in the sum of \$50, resumed her nocturnal wanderings and twice during the night it was found necessary to remove her, with others, from the thoroughfares. On appearing before Mr. E. R. Hallifax at the Magistracy on Monday the woman was fined \$25.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on Thursday in the Council Chamber.

The following were present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR FREDERICK JOHN DEALTRY LUGARD, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

HIS EXCELLENCY MAJOR-GENERAL R. G. BROADWOOD, C.B., A.D.C. (General Officer Commanding).

Hon. Sir F. H. MAY, K.C.M.G., (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. F. A. HAZELAND (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. P. N. H. JONES (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. F. J. BADELEY (Capt. Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. E. OSBORNE.

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. MURRAY STEWART.

Hon. Mr. W. J. GRESSON.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK, C.M.G.

Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SIR F. H. MAY.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen,—Before proceeding with the business of the day, I propose to read to the Council the telegram which I received from the Secretary of State. It is as follows:

"It gives me pleasure to inform you that His Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve of conferring the Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George upon Mr. May."

(Applause.) This news has already been made public in the Press, but I take this opportunity of reading this telegram to the Council in order that I may place on the records of the Legislative Council the fact that the oldest—with one exception—member of the Council here present has been awarded this honour by His Majesty, and I am sure that I voice the feeling of every member of this Council and of the Colony at large when I say that no honour conferred on this occasion by the King in any part of the Empire has been better deserved than the one of which we are taking note to-day. (Applause.)

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, I beg to express my appreciation of the terms in which your Excellency has been good enough to refer to the honour which has been conferred upon me.

CONDOLENCES WITH JAPAN.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I have also to inform the Council that immediately on receipt of the news of the dastardly outrage by which one of the foremost statesmen of Japan was deprived of his life at the hand of an assassin I telegraphed the sympathy of this Colony with our ally on their great loss. I received in reply the following telegram from His Majesty's Ambassador at Tokyo:—

"The Japanese Government desire me to convey to you their deep gratitude for the sympathetic message with respect to the lamented death of Prince Ito."

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table Financial Minute No. 51, and moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the resolution was agreed to.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H. E. the Governor, laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee, (No. 17) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

BYELAWS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that the approval of the Council be given to the byelaw made under sub-section 35 of section 16 of the

Public Health and Buildings Ordinances, 1903-09, with reference to the prevention of mosquito breeding.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that the approval of the Council be given to byelaws made under section 16 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinances, 1903-09, with regard to slaughter-houses and slaughter of animals.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

THE COINAGE PROBLEM.

The following resolution was standing in the name of the Hon. Mr. Stewart:—"That in the opinion of this Council the issue of a new subsidiary coinage convertible at par would not be successful unless the use of all other subsidiary coins were prohibited in the Colony, and that, in the circumstances, it is undesirable to deal with the matter except as part of a comprehensive scheme of local currency reform."

Hon. Mr. STEWART said, in moving the resolution:—Your Excellency, in speaking to the resolution of which I gave notice at our last meeting I shall not detain the Council long. I propose to do little more than indicate my reason for bringing it forward. Manifestly it refers to the scheme for the issue of a new subsidiary coinage propounded by an unofficial member in the debate on the Estimates—a proposal to repudiate after a certain date all the existing subsidiary coinage circulating outside of the Colony; to redeem the amount circulating or held in the Colony on the same date; and to issue a new subsidiary coin, convertible at par to any extent, but only legal tender up to two dollars; these coins to compete for public favour with those issued from the Canton Mint, the circulation of which in the Colony was not to be prohibited. Hitherto I have held with those who consider repudiation unjustifiable, redemption impracticable, and prohibition impolitic. The way the hon. member put the case for his contention, that we are not bound to redeem, shook the first of these opinions a little, but by now it has resettled in its old foundations. Having thought over the matter, I consider that the proposal to repudiate, however attractively it may be presented, is, after all, indefensible; and further that, in any case, new subsidiary coins would not cure the inconveniences at present complained of, unless the concurrent use of Chinese subsidiary coins were prohibited. In other words, I think that the scheme propounded would not work. It is here that opinion differs. On the one hand it is contended by the hon. member that the fact of his proposed new coin being convertible at par would cause it to drive out the competing Chinese coins. On the other hand it is held that the Chinese coin would still be in demand among the poorer section of the population, who would always prefer to receive in exchange for a dollar, say, for the sake of argument, eleven Chinese ten cent pieces instead of ten British pieces. It is this view of the probabilities which the first part of the resolution asserts. The point is debatable. I don't propose to discuss it. It is impossible to do so except at great length. And the hope of reaching finality is too slight to justify that. Currency questions are perhaps the most intricate of all the questions about which people freely dogmatise, and legislation dealing with them is notoriously apt to lead to most unexpected results. Ours are peculiarly intricate owing to the complex relation created by contact between ancient and modern conditions of life, between two distinct and well defined states of civilization, with standards of wealth so far apart that the unit of currency of the one is regarded as subsidiary coin by the other. I need not remind the Council that the notes issued by the Provincial Government Treasury in Canton are payable in 20 cent pieces. I need not remind you that the shares of the Kwangtung section of the Canton-Hankow Railway are issued in exchange for 20 cent pieces, that, in fact, the capital of that great undertaking is 20 cent pieces—a fact so astonishing to the English mind that when the local Branch of the China Association advised the London Committee of it, the Chairman was afraid to mention it at the Foreign Office lest it should

turn out to be a ridiculous mistake on our part. This only shows that the inhabitants of a country in which wealth is fairly widespread have difficulty in appreciating the currency needs of a country rich naturally but so thickly populated that the vast majority are very poor. This is important to remember, and it is sometimes forgotten in discussing the local currency problem. As I have said I do not propose to discuss it now. Local currency problems have been to the fore ever since the birth of the Colony, and they are not likely to be solved by exhaustive and exhaustingspeeches delivered in one afternoon. Moreover, it is not really necessary, to the practical purpose I have in view, that the Council should endorse an opinion which may be regarded as academic. I am only concerned to elicit an expression of opinion upon the merits of the proposed scheme as a whole. On the occasion of its promulgation your Excellency said that the Government would consider it. Doubtless you have done so. If, after consideration, the Government does not intend to carry out the hon. member's recommendations, it appears to me to be desirable in the public interest that a statement to that effect should be made. For this reason. Part of the scheme being to redeem the existing coin circulating or held in the Colony, obviously, if the belief were to gain ground that the scheme had any chance of being adopted, our coins would tend to flow back into the Colony in inconvenient quantities, with the result that, eventually, in the case of nothing being done, they would still further depreciate. To prevent this the Government, if they have no intention of redeeming at par the coins held locally, should say so. The belief that it is important to dissipate a possible misleading idea, calculated to encourage speculation, is my main reason for bringing forward this resolution. I must confess that it is perhaps not particularly well designed for the purpose, and, if the statement which I hope to elicit is made, I shall be willing to withdraw it. The latter part, suggesting that, if anything is done, our local currency ought to be dealt with as a whole by some comprehensive scheme of reform, at least indicates that I am not opposed to change, as such. So far I have been against most schemes of currency reform put forward; not because they involved change, but because I was not persuaded that the changes proposed were for the better. For instance, I did not agree with the proposal made seven years ago to adopt pounds, shillings and pence as the currency of the Colony. That proposal was not new, any more than subsequent proposals to "go gold" were new. Pounds, shillings and pence were proclaimed legal tender here in 1845, but merchants ignored the Government's theoretical gold standard and wisely continued to conduct their operations in the currency most convenient to China's foreign trade, the fact being that they had no option in the matter if they wanted to see the trade prosper. Those who fondly imagine that currency problems would cease from troubling if only we had a gold standard, should dip back fifty years into the history of the Colony. They might then realise, what the Government eventually realised in the early 'sixties, that the wise thing to do was to adopt a currency of equal value with the currency in which the trade of Canton was being conducted. The Government of that day realised the identity of this Colony's commercial interests with those of the great trade centre of South China more clearly than many among us would seem to at the present time. It is just as important to realise that commercially we are part of China as to remember that politically we are not, a fact the significance of which, we have just been sharply reminded, is insufficiently appreciated in high places. Realisation of the former fact that commercially we are part and parcel of China leads to a cautious reception of currency reform proposals based upon the idea that the time has come for this Colony to take independent action. That time will not have come, it seems to me, until the present renewed prospect of the establishment of a uniform currency throughout China shall have faded. The hope that in exchange for permission to raise the Customs duties the Central Government will discover a strong reason for strong action, may seem somewhat faint, but I

submit that it is less faint than any hitherto held out. We shall doubtless be told that the Central Government is not strong enough to force a uniform currency upon the Provinces, even if it so desires. But it is not reasonable to be asked to believe one moment that the Central Government is powerless to do this, and to be told at the same moment that it is powerful enough to eradicate the opium habit in a few years throughout the length and breadth of the land. If that is possible, and the accredited authorities on Chinese affairs proclaim the fact, it must surely also be possible to perform the far simpler task of controlling a few Provincial Mints. All that is required is an adequate motive and this may conceivably be supplied as suggested. Thus there seems more chance of reform than ever before, and, therefore, more than ever now should we exercise patience and wait and see what is to come. In the meantime it is incumbent on this Government to continue to work towards the rehabilitation of the subsidiary coinage in use by exerting its influence to combat the evils of over-production by the Canton Mint. More than that I do not advocate at the moment. It appears to be still doubtful whether the anticipated uniform currency throughout China will be the tael or the dollar. Whichever it is, we should, if possible, adapt our currency to it, and, pending the Central Government's eventual choice, I do not think it would be wise of us to launch out independently. If, however, within a reasonable period, it should become apparent that, after all, the hope that I have dwelt on is not to be fulfilled, then we shall have to face the risks of independent action, and then a comprehensive scheme of local currency reform—dealing with our copper as well as with our silver coins—will receive my active support. But while these things are on "the knees of the gods" I have no particular desire that this Government should bind itself in any way other than by the declaration I have asked for, and simply in order that there may be subject matter before the Council to speak to, I move *pro forma* the resolution as it stands.

The Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—The hon. member has wandered very far from the point—

HIS EXCELLENCY—The resolution has not been seconded.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Your Excellency, I informed the hon. member who represents the Justices of the Peace that I would be very glad to second his resolution. When I came into this room I was not aware of what he was going to say. I have listened to him with great attention this afternoon, and, in the main, I entirely agree with what he has said. I do not propose to take up the time of this honourable Council by going into the extremely vexed and complicated question of currency reform, but I will briefly state my reasons for supporting the hon. member. To begin with, a proposal was set forward by my hon. friend on my right (Mr. Osborne) at a previous meeting that we should repudiate all British coin which has poured into Southern China for many years past. It appears to me that that would be an absolutely indefensible action. Personally I would look upon it as politically immoral, and I feel very sure that that view would be taken by His Majesty's Ministers at Home, supposing the scheme were before them. I have already stated in this Council that I think it inadvisable to continue the scheme for redemption started by your Excellency's predecessor. It has been given a fair trial for some years and is found to be costing the Colony a large sum of money without an adequate return. I also endorse the remarks made by the hon. member who moved the resolution that prohibition, as we now stand, of Chinese coinage is most inadvisable. As I have already stated on a previous occasion, I consider the attitude of the Government at present as the correct one. We know that for many years past the Government has carefully and anxiously followed the currency question, but I believe the moment has not yet arrived for any special action on the part of the Government. It is unquestionable, in my opinion—although there are others who do not agree with me—that our coinage, as trade now exists, cannot possibly be

dissociated with that of the Chinese Empire and I believe if any attempt of that kind was made it would inflict a very serious blow on the trade of the Colony. We must continue our trade with the southern part of China, and merchants doing that must deal with Chinese on terms of equal footing as far as their coinage is concerned. If they find that through legislation in the Colony trade is checked, they will remove their business to the treaty ports. The trade will continue, but the interests of Hongkong will suffer. It appears to me that the only thing to do now is for the Government to continue the policy, which I understand it has followed for some time, of endeavouring in every possible way to encourage currency reform in China, which, I think, is within measurable distance. I may be wrong there. If I am, then, it will be open for the Government of this Colony to reconsider the circumstances. As a matter of fact, I think that it would in the circumstances be an enormous mistake and deal a serious blow at the material prosperity of the Colony were the Government to attempt this action. I will not take up the time of the Council further. As I said, I have only just heard the remarks made by the mover of the resolution. It is impossible for me—and I do not think it is at all necessary—to enlarge on anything he has said. I merely wish to support him in the main principles of his resolution.

HON. MR. OSBORNE—I thought, sir, that we were here to discuss questions concerning Hongkong, but we seem to be wandering away into Chinese currency affairs that have no bearing upon the point at issue; so I will endeavour to focus the debate back to the Colony's needs. The honourable member who has moved this resolution declares that repudiation of British coins is indefensible, and no doubt there are many who will be inclined to agree with him; indeed, it was only in regard to this aspect of the question, as I stated a fortnight ago, that I anticipated any exception being taken to my proposals. I will not argue the point; to do so would be of little advantage, because it is unlikely that unanimity would ever be reached. But I will meet his objection with a development of the original scheme, by which repudiation can be avoided and by which redemption can be effected without additional loss to the Treasury. I would suggest that the old coins be demonetised only so far as the public are concerned; that is to say, that they continue to be legal tender to Government and cease to be legal tender to others. The effect of this would be that a certain quantity would annually return to the Treasury and could be melted down and re-cast into new coins. Our local exchequer by slow degrees gorged itself in the past with unwholesome profits from subsidiary coinage, and if redemption be the only acceptable avenue to reform, then let it in similar manner disgorge by slow degrees in the future. Meanwhile the new coin would circulate at par and be legal tender both to Government and the public. The honourable member fears that the Chinese will continue to use Chinese coins—that they will prefer eleven Chinese 10 cent pieces to ten British. That may or may not be so. Again I will not argue the point, except to say that if the Chinese prefer their own coins, it will be their own affair and does not in the least affect the main principle of my scheme, which is that a coin at all times worth its face value would be available to those who wish to use it; and in further answer to this argument I can only repeat what I said before that those who continue to accept depreciated coins will have no one but themselves to blame for any loss they may suffer.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen.—The hon. member at the end of the table who represents the Justices of the Peace has told us that he is willing to withdraw his resolution if the Government will give him an assurance that they will not accept the scheme proposed by the hon. member on his left, except as part of a large scheme of currency reform. I have given much thought to the scheme, as I promised that I would do, in so far as it was possible to give thought to a scheme of which only the very briefest outline was given by the hon. member

in his Budget speech. I replied on that occasion that it did not seem as though the scheme afforded any grounds for belief that the introduction of the new coinage would bust the Chinese coin. He did not tell us on that occasion whether he anticipated that it would bust it or thought that it would not, or whether he would be content that the Chinese coin should circulate in the Colony provided that the new coinage circulated at par. The scheme would admittedly involve repudiation of the Hongkong currency which remained in circulation, for I think there is little doubt that the existing currency would still remain in circulation as long as the Chinese coinage; of course, circulating like it at a large discount. I do not think that any British Government in any British Colony would agree to a scheme involving repudiation of existing coinage being attempted, and unless a very considerable period for the redemption of the coin in circulation were agreed upon I could not support it myself. On this crucial point the hon. member in the brief outline he gave was silent. If he had in his mind that the period should be so short a one as to prevent the influx of stocks from Canton, that would involve an act of repudiation so large that I do not think any of us could consider it just now. If, on the other hand, he contemplated a considerable period during which the holders of existing stocks should be able to redeem the coin they had—say, a period of some six months—the liability which this Colony would incur would undoubtedly be a very large one and one wholly unknown. I concur, too, with what the proposer of the resolution said regarding the inadvisability of establishing any new form of coinage at the present moment until we know what the coinage of China is likely to be. Finally, and I think this is the most important point of all, the issue of a new coinage and the repudiation of the old would, I fear, strike a very serious and grave blow at the financial stability and integrity of this Colony in the eyes of China. (Applause.) In these circumstances I am prepared to give the assurance asked for by the proposer of the resolution, to use his own words, "the Government do not intend to deal with this matter of a new coinage except as part of a comprehensive scheme of local currency reform," and, I may add, of systematic redemption. The hon. Mr. Osborne proposed a scheme which differs very considerably from his original one, by which I understand that he meant that there should be two parallel forms of legal tender of coinage in this Colony so far as the Government of the Colony is concerned. That is to say, in other words, that the whole mercantile community of this Colony, the whole of those carrying on the trade of this Colony with China, should repudiate, but the Government should not. The Government should continue to receive as legal tender the coins it had issued, but that the community should not. I am unable to see how the Government of the Colony can dissociate itself from the community of the Colony, how the Government can adopt one form of legal tender when the Colony which it represents disclaims and repudiates that form of legal tender. To my mind the one is as much a scheme of repudiation as the other. The Government of the Colony was referred to by the hon. member in his speech as if it were some outside committee existing for its own purposes in this Colony. It had gorged itself with profits and it was to disgorge those profits. I can only say that the Government of this Colony represents the taxpayers. The taxpayer of this Colony, in other words, the mercantile community, receives the benefit of the coins put in circulation. If the Government disgorges, the taxpayer disgorges. There is no separation between the Government of this Colony and the mercantile and trading interests. One minor point before I sit down. I would correct the hon. member for the Chamber of Commerce, who told us that my predecessor instituted the scheme of withdrawal of certain quantities of subsidiary coinage tendered in payment of taxes, and so forth. That is not strictly accurate. My predecessor did not institute that scheme further than to send Home large quantities of unissued stock. The scheme was instituted in the hiatus which occurred between his leaving this Colony and my arrival.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Your Excellency, in view of the statement which you have made, I beg leave to withdraw my resolution.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY.

Hon. Mr. STEWART asked—(1.) Is it a fact that, in the original instance, the postponement of the King's Birthday celebrations was ordered by the Secretary of State without any previous reference of the matter to or consultation with the Government of this Colony?

(2) If so, will the Government convey to the Secretary of State a respectful intimation that such treatment is resented in the Colony?

(3) In view of the fact that the well-known date of the birthday of His Britannic Majesty was chosen for the obsequies of the late Dowager Empress of China some weeks ago, and that up to last Friday the Secretary of State gave no sign that he considered that the claims of the latter overrode those of the former in this British Colony, has the Government any information as to the reason for this sudden change of attitude?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied:

1. Yes.
2. The questions put forward by the hon. member and the replies given will be transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.
3. No.

A PUBLIC NUISANCE.

Hon. Mr. STEWART asked—Is it necessary to the work on the Post Office that the plot of Government Land between the Law Courts and the Praya should be largely occupied as workmen's dwellings?

How many people are housed nightly in the quarters which the contractor is allowed to maintain there, and what rent, if any, does he draw from their occupation? Are all the people housed there engaged in work on the Post Office?

And are we to understand that the public may be asked to put up with the nuisance created by the condition of the plot in question for the year or more during which the Post Office will be in course of construction?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS replied:

1. No.
2. There are at present over 30 men housed nightly in the workshop quarters. These are masons brought over, after the last typhoon which destroyed their matsheds, from the Ma Tau Kok Quarry, from which stone for the Post Office is prepared. They will in a few days return to the Ma Tau Kok sheds, which are being rebuilt. The contractor draws no rent for housing those people, who are all engaged on Post Office work.
3. This answer disposes of the 3rd question.

THE CEMETERY ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to set apart certain Crown Land to be used as a burial ground for persons professing the Christian religion.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

TRADE MARKS AMENDMENT ORDINANCE.

Council went into Committee to resume consideration of the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the law relating to trade marks."

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Your Excellency.—Two days ago I received a letter from the Colonial Secretary enclosing seven or eight suggested amending clauses. It appears to me, although I am not an expert in trade marks, that the matter is a very important one. There are a large number of merchants in the Colony who are interested in trade marks, either on their own behalf or on behalf of the firms at home which they represent, and it appears to me in view of the importance of the matter and also, as I understand, in view of the fact that there is no urgent necessity for the passing of this Bill, that it would be very advisable that an opportunity should be given to the merchants interested to see these clauses before the Bill passes its third reading. That being so, I would ask your Excellency to be good enough to allow the Bill to remain in committee until the merchants of the Colony have had an opportunity of seeing what the amendments are. When I received the letter I circulated a memorandum to the committee of the Chamber of Commerce, but it was impossible for us to discuss the question in the interval. As representing the Chamber of Commerce, I am not prepared to express any opinion on the

proposals now before the Committee, and I cannot see that there can be any objection to allowing the matter to stand over. I would ask your Excellency to do this, and the Chamber of Commerce will deal with it as promptly as possible. I do not think the Bill ought to be put to the third reading until merchants have had an opportunity of expressing their opinion if they wish to do so. The question is a very important one.

HIS EXCELLENCY—We shall be very glad to defer the Bill. We wish to have your views.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—That is my reason for asking for postponement. I propose, if you will allow me, to hand in the memorandum which I circulated to the committee, which will justify my reason for asking that the Bill be deferred.

HIS EXCELLENCY—We will defer the Committee stage on this Bill, but I would ask you to expedite the matter as much as possible, as the session is much beyond the usual date. I would like the Council to meet again on Friday, the 26th November.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I am much obliged to your Excellency for your consideration in the matter.

THE HARBOUR OF REFUGE BILL.

Council went into Committee on the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to authorize the Construction and Maintenance of a Harbour of Refuge upon and over certain portions of the Sea Bed and Foreshore situated upon the Harbour frontage at Taikoktsui, Mongkoktsui, and Yaumati, Kowloon, in this Colony."

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved an amendment to section 2 (b) by adding the following words: "And do not when completed interfere with direct access to the sea along the whole of the western frontages of Kowloon Marine Lots 32 and 49, provided that the sea wall protecting any reclamation of the foreshore or seabed adjoining and lying to the south of Kowloon Marine Lot 32 shall not be altered so as to extend to the westward of the position shown on the said plan."

He said the amendment was merely to make clear an alteration in the plan (submitted) and also to make clear that the access to the marine lots would not be interfered with. The amendment had been accepted by the owner of Kowloon Marine Lot 32.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Does that mean that you can do anything else you like in front of a man's lot?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—No.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—The line of the shore is marked "Harbour of Refuge boundaries."

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—That is for the convenience of workmen.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Does it mean that you can bring any number of junks you please opposite the houses there and leave them there during the time this breakwater is building?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—That would be very unreasonable.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Is there any danger of the rights of these marine lot holders being affected?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—Lots that are likely to be affected are provided for in the Bill.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—You say it is not likely you will put junks in such a way as will prove inconvenient. But you will do it if you like?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I think the hon. member may rest assured that there will be no unreasonable interference. During the construction of the work junks will no doubt have to come and go, but there will be no interference with the access to the sea.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—That would work in the ordinary way if there were no special powers taken for the breakwater. I only ask what are the special powers for. You make a line all round the plan and say that within this you are going to take special powers.

The reply of the DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS was inaudible.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—You are not going to make any works along the foreshore?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—No.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—Then why provide for deviation all the way from the breakwater to the shore? I don't see what the building of the breakwater has got to do with the sea wall at all.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—You want to show the area of your harbour of refuge.

Hon. Mr. STEWART—If that is the object of the line then it is understandable.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Supposing dredging operations were required in front of those lots, they would take place within the red line, not outside.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—Yes, but this apparently gives the Government the right, say, to put a stone pier opposite a man's lot.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I take it, your Excellency that if the Government are spending a large sum of money in making a valuable harbour of refuge they must have power to do any reasonable amount of work in that area. It appears to me that the Government proposal is a perfectly reasonable one, and I don't see anything to object to. We can trust to the Government officials and the assurance given by your Excellency.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—As for the rights of marine holders they are amply provided for in the Bill. And as a matter of fact no marine lot holder has objected to the Bill.

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—The whole point is whether there is anything in this Bill which will affect the rights of marine lot owners.

HIS EXCELLENCY—They have all seen the Bill and discussed it, and do not object, or what objections they have made have been met.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—The marine lot holders affected are mentioned.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Have you any amendment you wish to make to the clause?

Hon. Mr. OSBORNE—No.

The section was then approved.

Sub-section 4 of the same clause was altered to read "The Governor may instead of making an award under this section enter into an agreement with any claimant for the compromise or settlement of any claim on such terms as the Governor may think fit."

Council then resumed.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Council will adjourn until Friday, 26th inst.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of Finance Committee was then held, the COLONIAL SECRETARY presiding. The following vote was passed:—

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Thirty-three thousand five hundred and ten Dollars (\$33,510) in aid of the vote, Public Works, Recurrent, Miscellaneous, Typhoon and Rainstorm Damages.

The CHAIRMAN—The total damage by the last typhoon amounted to \$50,370. This supplementary vote is required to supplement the vote on the Estimates.

INDUSTRY AND LITIGATION.

During the hearing of a case at the Supreme Court on Monday Mr. Bowley, when addressing his Lordship, experienced some difficulty in making himself heard. Finding that the noise continued, he asked his Lordship if the Hongkong Hotel Company were to be allowed to cut iron girders while the Court was sitting. He submitted that the noise from that and from the Post Office made it impossible to conduct the business of the Court. His Lordship made some remark which could not be heard at the Press table, and the clerk went out apparently to find a policeman to instruct him to ask the offending parties to cease making a noise. Whether he found the policeman or whether the workmen refused to obey the expressed wishes of the Court is not known, but the noise did not cease and the solicitors had to struggle along as well as they could under adverse conditions.

It is reported that the Korean Household will present a sum of Y. 10,000 to the family of the late Prince Ito besides making a grant of Y. 30,000 as a contribution toward the funeral expenses. At the Korean Court during his lifetime the late Prince was given the treatment of a Prince of the Blood, and the proposed allowances are said to be in consideration of this honour.

SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Tuesday at the Board Room. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe presided, and there were present: Hon. Mr. P. N. H. Jones (Vice-President) Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin (Registrar-General), Colonel Bedford, R.A.M.C., Mr. Shelton Hooper, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Dr. Pearse (A.M.O.H.) and Mr. W. Bowen Rowlands (Secretary).

THE COLONIAL CEMETERY.

A temporary map of the Colonial Cemetery was forwarded to the Board with the explanation that it was not advisable to prepare a new map until the Board had indicated the various sections for old residents, etc.

Mr. SHELTON HOOPER minuted—I think the Government should be asked to send the Board the plan of the Cemetery showing the area it is proposed to dedicate, for any observations the Board may wish to make.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—I altogether object to the division made between residents, seven years' residents, and twenty years' residents. We are all equal when in the cemetery.

The PRESIDENT said he made a misstatement when he said there was no map of the Colonial Cemetery. When he looked up the papers he found a map which was serving the purpose of a map of the Colonial Cemetery until such time as the new Ordinance was passed. In reply to Mr. Hooper's remarks, he wished to point out that he had been given to understand the whole of the cemetery, exclusive of the Japanese portion, was to be dedicated. The Bill was already in the committee stage before the Legislative Council, but if there was any serious point to which the Board wished to draw attention they could apply to have the matter stopped in order that members could discuss it.

Mr. HOOPER said he had no wish whatever to stop the legislation, but a fortnight ago he asked for the information and the meeting of the Council would be held to-morrow. The President had just informed members that the whole cemetery, with the exception of the Japanese portion, was dedicated, but the speaker did not know what that meant. Where the Japanese were buried interspaces were occupied by Europeans. He had no wish to delay the legislation because he thought it was really necessary that it should go through, as it had been hanging on for a long time. But as the Government had not consulted the Board in the matter, and as the President had got the assurance from the Government that only the Japanese portion was to be excluded, he would like to call the attention of the Government to the remarks he had just made and ask them what they proposed to do where Japanese were intermingled with Europeans.

The PRESIDENT said the map took in, as far as he had seen, the whole of the hillside where the Japanese were buried. He was not aware that Europeans and Japanese were buried together.

Mr. HOOPER asked if members could see the map.

When the map was produced Mr. HOOPER said it was impossible to follow it, as it was useless for the purpose for which it was wanted. The discussion then ended.

MONUMENTS IN THE CEMETERY.

An application was submitted for two grave spaces in the old residents' section of the Colonial Cemetery for the purpose of erecting a monument thereon.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK minuted—I don't see any reason why this should not be granted.

The PRESIDENT said the application was made by the relatives of the late Mr. Choa Leep Chee for two grave spaces—one on either side of the grave—on which to erect a monument. The matter was already adjourned from the last meeting. Mr. Choa Leep Chee was not buried in the old residents' section, but in the ordinary section where burials took place at present.

Mr. HOOPER moved that the application be not granted. He did so because the question of reserving spaces in the Colonial Cemetery had been fully thrashed out within the last four or five months, when the Board came to the conclusion that they had no power to sell grave spaces unless they were to be occupied im-

mediately; that was to say, no one could be granted a grave space for the burial of a person who was living to day. If that were illegal surely it would be illegal to allow people to reserve two spaces simply for the purpose of erecting a monument over one grave. Were that application granted, the applicants would be in possession of two unoccupied grave spaces, and there being no sanitary objection any of their relatives would be entitled to be buried there. At the time the speaker pointed out that when a person was buried in a certain area there might be applications made later by relatives for burials to be made side by side if there was grave space, and he suggested that that might be allowed. But to erect monuments which would interfere with the intervening spaces was illegal, and he could not see, unless the Board wished to stultify itself, how they could grant the present application. He would ask the Board to seriously consider whether, having only six or seven hundred spaces in that cemetery, they should deprive themselves of grave spaces.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT seconded the proposal on the ground principally that spaces in the Colonial Cemetery were very limited, and he did not think any necessity had been shown why this particular family should be allowed three grave spaces for only one body.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—I don't think we have power to grant this request.

The PRESIDENT—I am afraid not, after having refused in the recent case of a captain to grant spaces to be allotted to those who are living at present.

COLONEL BEDFORD—Is there no means of getting this rule rescinded? It is beyond our powers, I presume.

The PRESIDENT—It is beyond our power to grant grave spaces to living persons.

COLONEL BEDFORD—It seems a very exceptional and harsh measure. I know of no other place where such a rule exists.

The PRESIDENT—It exists here on account of the limited available space, and each terrace costs an enormous amount.

COLONEL BEDFORD—As a matter of course the time will come when the cemetery will have to be enlarged.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—It cannot be enlarged.

COLONEL BEDFORD—Then another cemetery must be provided. As long as there is life and death we must make provision for people who die.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Therefore we ought not to be too generous with our spaces.

COLONEL BEDFORD—I don't agree, but it would be absurd of me to move an amendment, because I believe it is *ultra vires* for us to give permission.

The PRESIDENT—Yes.

COLONEL BEDFORD—Then who makes the power? Not us. It is the Legislative Council.

The PRESIDENT—Yes.

COLONEL BEDFORD—Therefore it was hardly necessary to have brought the matter up at all, was it?

Mr. HOOPER—The application was made to the Board, therefore it must come before us.

COLONEL BEDFORD—It is a question of law, not permission.

The PRESIDENT—Yes, and it is proposed that the Board inform the applicant they have no power to grant it. Are you prepared to—

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—No, I will put it the other way: refuse the application.

Mr. HOOPER said if the application was for permission to encroach on either side of the existing grave space, which was, say, 12 feet, and the encroachment 24 feet, the Board would have power to deal with it. But he thought it as well to stick to the original resolution.

The application was refused.

The marriage of Mr. H. B. Graybill, M.A., of the Christian College, Canton, to Miss Susan T. Griggs, took place a week ago at Shanghai. Both the contracting parties are American, Miss Griggs having just arrived from the States. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Dr. Stuart in presence of a few friends, and before Mr. J. I. Viney, representing the American Consulate-General. The bride was given away by Mr. R. W. Stafford, with whom and Mr. Stafford she travelled to Shanghai. They came down from Shanghai by the *Tenyo Maru*, which arrived at Hongkong yesterday.

SIR FRANCIS MAY, K.C.M.A.

COLONIAL SECRETARY HONOURED.

The whole community will join us in congratulating the Hon. Mr. F. H. May, Colonial Secretary, on the honour which has just been conferred upon him by His Majesty King Edward. It is the only honour which has come to Hongkong in connection with the present Royal birthday, but no one will deny that it has been well bestowed, as the new knight's twenty-eight years' record in the Colony is one of usefulness and meritorious service. Sir Francis Henry May, K.C.M.G.—to give him his new title—is, as most people know, a son of Ireland, being the fourth son of the late Hon. G. A. C. May, Lord Chief Justice of Ireland. Educated at Harrow and Trinity College, Dublin, he took his B.A. degree in 1881, and was appointed a Hongkong cadet the same year. Five years later saw him Acting Registrar-General, and in 1887 he was Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary. In 1891 he obtained the appointment of Assistant Colonial Secretary, during which time he was also engaged as private secretary to H.E. the Governor, Sir W. Des Voeux. After acting as Colonial Treasurer he was appointed Captain Superintendent of Police in 1893, and in 1900 he became Acting Colonial Secretary, receiving the substantive appointment in 1902. Since that time he has acted on several occasions as Officer Administering the Government.

This reference would be incomplete were congratulations not also extended to Lady May, who has proved herself not only a worthy helpmate, but one who is beloved by all who have come under the influence of her genial presence.

THE LATE MR. CALTHROP.

Prior to the commencement of business at the Supreme Court on Thursday reference was made to the death of Mr. H. G. Calthrop. The Chief Justice (the Hon. W. Rees Davies, K.C.), and the Puisne Judge (His Honour Mr. H. J. Gompertz) were seated on the bench, and there was a full attendance of members of the bar, including the Acting Attorney-General (Mr. F. A. Hazeland), Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Mr. M. W. Slade, Mr. Eldon Potter, Mr. C. G. Alabaster, and Mr. J. W. Orr. There were also many members of the junior bar present.

The Chief Justice said—Mr. Attorney-General, before proceeding to the business of the Court I feel assured it be consonant with the feelings of the legal profession as a whole that I should state how sincere is our grief at the sad and untimely death of Mr. Calthrop. He had practised at this Bar for some five years, and he combined the qualities of a sound lawyer with those of a conscientious and fearless advocate. In private life Mr. Calthrop made many friends. He was a most genial companion. Of an unassuming disposition, he was possessed of a most kindly heart. His death is keenly felt by the profession, and I am assured our regret is shared by the community as a whole.

The Acting Attorney-General—My lords, on behalf of the Bar, I beg to endorse the sentiments which have just fallen from your Lordship's lips. When the sad news with respect to the tragic death of Mr. Calthrop was received on Saturday morning the announcement came as a terrible shock not only to the members of the profession but also to the community at large. I am sure I am expressing the feelings of every member of the Bar here present when I state that by his untimely death the Bar has lost a bright ornament, and we individually have lost a kind and genial friend.

The *Tatsu-maru* affair has not been forgotten by the Chinese in Australia. When the Chinese Consul-General in Sydney embarked on board the *Kumano-maru* on his return home a few weeks ago, it is reported that not a single one of his countrymen went to the wharf to bid him farewell, although the Consul-General was very popular among them. This was done as a protest against the Consul-General travelling by a Japanese steamer.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 8th November.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. H. H. J.
GOMPERTZ (PUISNE JUDGE).

STONECUTTERS CUSTOMS.

Yik Tai Kung Sze and Sze Hing Tong brought an action against the Shun Lee firm claiming \$150 for damages and trespass. The first item was \$25, the value of 25 blocks of granite left in the quarry and damaged by the defendants by painting certain Chinese characters thereon in tar, and \$190 damages for unlawful trespass on plaintiffs' property and interference with the business. Mr. Bowley appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. P. S. Dixon, from the office of Mr. Harding, appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Bowley stated that the quarry included a large area which was a range of hills, or at least once was. This leased area contained a number of small quarries, and the quarry which was the subject of the action was known as No. 7. The lease was granted to Kwong Yik in January, 1907, for three years, and he entered into partnership with one Li Ping for the purpose of working the quarry, the name under which they carried on the business being the Yik Tai Kung Sze. Li Ping was practically the managing partner. The custom of working the quarry was that the lessee sublet the different small quarries contained in the area to stonecutters on terms that the stonecutters might cut within the area allowed to them as much stone as they liked, or as they could, provided, of course, they complied with the regulations made by the Director of Public Works for the general management of the quarry. The stonecutters cut the stone in accordance with the orders received.

His Lordship—What do they do? Pay a lease or a royalty?

Mr. Bowley replied that it was a peculiar arrangement. The orders were carried out by the stonecutters, and out of the price agreed to be paid for the stone the Crown took 17 per cent., and the balance went to the stonecutters themselves. The particular quarry, No. 7, was sublet to Yip Tai and to Sze Hing Tong, the second plaintiff. Continuing, Mr. Bowley explained that the trouble arose out of unwarranted action on the part of Li Shun, who was a partner in the Yik Tai Kung Sze, but he was only a sleeping partner and it would probably be found that he had overdrawn his capital and that his share in the business was really less than nothing. He had caused certain characters to be placed on the plaintiffs' property thereby claiming possession of the stones which formed the various heaps. The inscription on the stones was that "these stones have been cut by the Sze Hing Tong and assigned to the Shun Lee firm. Purchasers found by any government officer will be prosecuted and punished." That was sufficient to prevent anyone from buying those stones. Li Shun made an assignment of his share in the business to the Shun Lee firm, and of course he had right to do so.

Mr. Dixon said that Li Shun was responsible and his clients. His clients went round to the quarry, where they were pointed out certain stones which Li Shun said belonged to him, and those having been marked with his authority the parties came back and Li Shun assigned his interests in the firm to the Shun Lee firm. His clients did not do anything.

His Lordship—You marked the stones.

Mr. Dixon—But under Li Shun's directions. Continuing, he said that his clients did not commit any trespass. It was Li Shun who did.

His Lordship—Supposing he had no right to assign that property, you would be guilty of trespass.

Mr. Dixon—Li Shun was a partner.

His Lordship—He had no right to assign partnership property in settlement of his private debts.

Mr. Dixon—We are perfectly innocent. We have simply taken this assignment.

Judgments was given for plaintiff for \$77.50.

A HOUSEBOY'S CLAIM.

The hearing of the action by Chan Yau, houseboy, against Mr. Lambert, wife of Colonel

Lambert, A.O.D., for \$18 wages was continued. When the case was last before the Court plaintiff said that his mistress had dismissed him because he was suspected of having stolen two silver articles. Evidence was given by Private Crew, who spoke to receiving a basket which had been sent by the plaintiff and which contained two silver articles.

His Lordship said there was no evidence against the plaintiff or the market coolie of larceny, but it was a most careless and stupid thing to put valuable things like those silver milk jugs in a basket to be taken away by the market coolie. It seemed to him that there was sufficient ground for his dismissal and judgment would therefore be for defendant with costs.

Wednesday, 10th November.

A MESS BILL.

The Hung Cheong firm of compradores, Kowloon, brought an action against John Robertson, of Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co., to recover \$74.56, being balance alleged to be due for goods sold and delivered. Mr. Reader Harris, from the office of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, appeared for plaintiffs, while defendant was represented by Mr. J. H. Gardiner.

Mr. Harris said the claim was for half a mess account during the months of August and September. Defendant had had dealings with plaintiffs since February last and the accounts were paid till the end of July. Mr. Robertson was away during June and July, and the mess bills were paid during that time by Mr. Turner. At the end of August the account was rendered to Mr. Robertson, who wrote to plaintiffs asking that the bill stand over for a month. Goods were supplied during September, and at the beginning of October application was made for payment. Defendant then told plaintiffs that Mr. Turner should have paid the account, as he (defendant) had paid his share to Mr. Turner. On enquiry being made it was ascertained that Mr. Turner had left the Colony. The books, however, showed that the account was against Mr. Robertson, and they looked to him for payment. Mr. Turner had paid two months simply because Mr. Robertson was away. Plaintiffs were only claiming half the account, although they would have been entitled to claim the full amount, as Mr. Turner had not paid his share.

The managing partner of the plaintiff firm gave evidence bearing out the statement made by his solicitor. Under cross-examination he admitted that the characters on one of the books produced was the "Turner mess account," and another book showed the entry "Robertson private account."

Mr. Gardiner stated the case for the defence. Defendant said he took a flat and Mr. Turner came to live with him, practically as his lodger. By the end of May Mr. Turner owed him \$300 and on June 4th defendant suggested, as he was leaving the Godown Company, and had no prospects, that Mr. Turner should do something to repay him. It was arranged that Mr. Turner should take over the establishment, defendant paying him \$100 monthly, from which \$25 was to be deducted in repayment of the money owed by Mr. Turner. Witness then sent outchits to the tradespeople informing them that Mr. Turner would in future be responsible for the accounts. When he went to Deep Water Bay he paid half the rent and the servants' wages, but Mr. Turner paid for the food.

Cross-examined—He did not send a chit book with the chit to plaintiffs and had no knowledge beyond the messenger's statement that the chit was received.

Mr. Harris contended that if defendant had wished to escape liability he should have sent an explicit notice to plaintiffs that he would be no longer liable, instead of merely intimating that the accounts should be sent to Mr. Turner.

His Lordship reserved his decision.

Thursday, November 11th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE
(HON. MR. REES DAVIES, K.C.).

THE FLORIDA WATER CASE.

The Florida Water case, which attracted so much attention last year, is revived again as a

special jury action in which Edward Kemp and others of New York seek an injunction against Leung Chak Chan and others trading as the Kwong Sang firm, Des Voeux Road, to restrain them from selling Florida Water in bottles bearing labels which are colourable imitations of plaintiffs' property. Damages are also asked for. Mr. Slade is acting for plaintiffs and Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., and Mr. Eldon Potter appear for defendants.

His Lordship said he understood that Mr. Slade was suffering from a severe cold which prevented him from conducting the case. With the consent of the other side he proposed that the case should stand over until to-morrow (Friday).

Sir Henry Berkeley consented and said he regretted his friend's indisposition, which made it impossible for him to go to the jury that day. He would suggest for the convenience of the jury that they be empanelled and the others could go away. It would be a serious inconvenience if they were to be brought to Court again next day.

His Lordship said there were reasons which made it better that the jury be called next day. The Court then adjourned till to-day.

FIRE BRIGADE COMPETITION.

GOVERNOR PRESENTS PRIZES.

His Excellency the Governor, who was attended by Captain Mitchell-Taylor, A.D.C., was present at the annual competition of the Fire Brigade held on the compound of the Central Police Station on the 10th inst. There was also a small attendance of ladies and gentlemen who happened to hear that the manoeuvres would be carried out that afternoon. There was a good muster of European and Chinese firemen, whose operations were performed under the observation of Mr. E. J. Badeley, Superintendent of the Brigade, Captain F. W. Lyons, Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse and Intelligence Officer Lane.

All the machinery of a fire brigade was brought into action, and the firemen gave an excellent exhibition, the competitions with despatch box, hose and reel, hydrant and escape ladder being carried through in good time, and with the coolness, sureness and celerity which the calling of a fireman demands.

In the despatch box drill Fireman Cooper carried off the prize, while there were three divisions entered for the shield presented by the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company. The competition for this trophy took the form of escape and other ladder drill, also an exhibition of life saving. The three divisions entered were in charge of Foreman Grant, J. Watt and M. Sullivan, and the shield was won by Fireman Grant's division for the third time. In the competition the escape ladders were run up to the second and third floors of the Station building, and while one fireman scaled these and descended with a dummy, another dashed up after him with hose ready for action.

At the conclusion of the competition, His Excellency presented the prizes, and as the recipients stepped forward to receive them cheers were raised by the firemen and spectators from all quarters of the compound. In addition to the shield Fireman Grant was presented with a handsome silver cup, and a few of the Chinese firemen received money prizes.

THE TRUTH REVEALED.

Three natives who were arrested at Shawkiwan appeared before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Monday on charges of being in unlawful possession of and preparing opium.

The first and second defendants denied the charges, and alleged that the Chief Excise Officer, Mr. Hoggarth, was telling lies.

The third defendant admitted the charges, and informed his Worship that the other two men were preparing the opium.

Mr. Hoggarth asked for a substantial penalty, as the only way he could get a case against the defendants was to dress his excise men as quarry hands.

His Worship fined each of the defendants \$100 each on the second charge, and the second and third \$90 each on the first count.

COMPLICATED BANKRUPTCY PROSECUTION.

THE MOOSA—EBRAHIM CASE.

The case in which Moosa Ebrahim was charged with offences under the Bankruptcy Ordinances was mentioned before Mr. E. R. Hallifax at the Magistracy on Monday.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Eldon Potter, instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Bowley asked his Worship to fix a day for the hearing next week.

Mr. Potter thought if an adjournment was granted for any length of time that his Worship might consider a reduction of bail. He understood Mr. Bowley wanted an adjournment for eight days.

Mr. Bowley—Yes.

Mr. Potter said the bail was prohibitive, and as the prosecution wanted a further adjournment his Worship should consider whether it could be reduced.

Mr. Bowley asked his Worship to consider the gravity of the offence with which the defendant was charged. He had not had time to read through the charges, but he gathered from a glance at them that the amount of property the defendant was charged with misappropriating or failing to discover exceeded \$15,000.

Mr. Potter—The only figure your Worship has before you is \$8,000.

His Worship—That is just to come within the charges.

Mr. Bowley—The total amount of the charges will amount to several lakhs of dollars. I must strenuously object to any reduction, but reserve the right to apply for an increase.

Mr. Potter—It is only a question of fixing an amount that will insure the appearance of the defendant. If we can get two persons of position in the Colony to put up a reasonable amount that should satisfy my friend.

His Worship—You can find two good sureties?

Mr. Potter—I am instructed that we can find two who will put up \$10,000 each.

His Worship—\$10,000 personal bond and two sureties of \$5,000 each; would that meet your views?

Mr. Bowley—I suggest two sureties of \$10,000 each; if the defendant and two sureties will sign a bail bond by which they are jointly and severally liable in the sum of \$10,000 each.

Mr. Potter said he would not object to a remand if his client could get a reduction of bail, which was very high.

His Worship—But the charges are very heavy.

His Worship fixed the bail as suggested, the defendant in the sum of \$10,000 and two sureties of \$10,000 each, and said he would hear the case on Wednesday, 17th instant.

THE CASE AGAINST ALLANA.

The case then came on for hearing in which S. E. Allana was charged by S. A. Marican, of the Cycle Depot, Des Vœux Road, with on May 1st embezzling a gold watch and chain; on May 15th a sum of \$250; and on August 25th obtaining a ticket for Calcutta by a false pretence.

Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell) appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. F. Paget Hett (of Messrs. Bruton and Hett) represented the defendant.

Mr. Goldring—Your Worship is remanding this case till the same day as the other?

Mr. Hett—I hope your Worship is not doing anything of the kind.

His Worship asked Mr. Goldring if he had any particular reason for wanting a remand.

Mr. Goldring said his particular reason was that the principal witness in this case was the defendant in the last. This case practically depended on the other, and it would be very prejudicial to his principal witness to have to undergo cross-examination before his case came on. The most important case was that against Moosa, but they hung together to a large extent. It would also be prejudicial to the present defendant to go into the box and be cross-examined now, as he was the principal witness in the case against Moosa. He was quite ready to go on if his Worship thought he should.

His Worship—It seems to me that the cross-examination in one will prejudice the other case.

Mr. Hett—I am quite prepared to take the risk my client runs by putting him in the witness-box before the other case comes on.

Mr. Potter agreed with Mr. Goldring that it would put his client in a very difficult position if he should be cross-examined in this case.

Mr. Goldring—In any event, and with all due deference, if your Worship decides that the case against Allana should be heard first, I submit it would be better for another Magistrate to hear it.

Mr. Hett—May I be allowed to suggest that Mr. Goldring should be allowed to adduce sufficient evidence that there is a case against the defendant. My contention is that no case has been made out. Mr. Marican, the complainant in this case, is here and can be put in the box.

Mr. Goldring—Mr. Moosa, the defendant in the other case, has been attending to the books for and on behalf of Mr. Marican. The books are in his handwriting.

His Worship—How can a business of this kind arise out of the bankruptcy?

Mr. Hett—I submit it does not arise out of it.

Mr. Goldring—In any event, I don't think the case should go on.

Mr. Potter—I may say my client will be prejudiced if this course is adopted.

Mr. Hett—I think Mr. Potter has no *locus standi* in this case.

Mr. Potter agreed, but thought he should be allowed to point that fact out to his Worship.

His Worship (to Mr. Hett)—Is your objection only one of waste of time?

Mr. Hett—Yes, the case has been hanging over my client for a long time.

Mr. Goldring—He is out on very light bail.

Mr. Hett—If my friend is afraid of losing his case, why doesn't he withdraw? To suggest that Moosa's proceedings are the outcome of Allana's is not correct.

His Worship—I don't see that there can be much objection to Mr. Hett's suggestion of calling the chief witness in this case.

Mr. Goldring—The chief witness in this case is Moosa; he kept the books and found out all the defalcations alleged against Allana. Mr. Marican's evidence amounts to very little, except to what happened at the end when he dismissed Allana.

Mr. Hett—Will your Worship take that formal evidence, and then perhaps the case will stop?

Mr. Goldring—We have not heard the opening or do not know anything of the evidence in the other case, but I understand that Mr. Marican is alleged to be involved in that case.

His Worship—This is a small part of the other case?

Mr. Goldring—Yes. I don't suggest that your Worship would be prejudiced, but you might be by what transpired. The cases are absolutely knit up together, and I don't think the smaller depending case should be heard first.

His Worship—At first sight Mr. Hett appears entitled to ask that the case should be continued.

Mr. Goldring—This is a peculiar case, and it is inextricably mixed up with the other.

His Worship—Are both Marican and Allana appearing in the other case as witnesses?

Mr. Goldring—Yes.

Mr. Potter—They are supposed to have been partners.

Mr. Goldring—It will be impossible to tell what questions may involve an incriminating answer. It is not that I am afraid to go on, but I want everything to be perfectly fair.

Mr. Hett—I would suggest that the complainant in Allana's case should be called, and the moment your Worship thinks we are approaching dangerous ground you can stop us. I ask that the man be called, and I think your Worship will see in my cross-examination that we have nothing to do with this case.

Mr. Goldring—We shall not know in this case, until Moosa's case is opened, what will be or will not be, incriminating questions.

His Worship—I cannot see how the question of embezzlement of a gold watch and chain and—

Mr. Goldring—They are all involved in the purchase by Marican of Allana's business. I think I am always entitled to a remand provided the prisoner is out on bail, and he is on light bail.

Mr. Hett—This charge has been hanging over my client for some time, and there have been notices in the newspapers about it. We say that the charges are absolutely groundless, and I can assure your Worship and my friend that I will not ask Mr. Marican any questions which will incriminate him.

His Worship thought he would continue.

Mr. Goldring—I think, having regard to the whole case, that it should not be taken by your Worship, in fairness to all parties.

His Worship—You put it that this case is absolutely inextricably mixed up with that of Moosa's?

Mr. Goldring—They cannot deny it.

Mr. Hett—I do deny it most emphatically.

Mr. Goldring—The Official Receiver suggested to me that this case should be postponed, but Mr. Hett has persuaded him to change his mind.

His Worship—To remand it until the other case is heard would be indefinite.

Mr. Goldring suggested that his Worship should remand it before another Magistrate.

Mr. Hett—The evidence of Marican will about finish it.

Mr. Goldring—It is impossible to finish to-day.

Mr. Hett—If my friend is afraid to open, let us have Marican in the witness-box and examine him.

Mr. Goldring—I am quite ready to open, but Moosa is my principal witness.

His Worship—I don't see how your client is put to any inconvenience, Mr. Hett. He is on light bail.

Mr. Goldring—I will agree to it being reduced if necessary.

Mr. Hett—If my friend will meet us in that way—

His Worship—I think it would be better for Mr. Wood to take this case entirely.

Mr. Potter—As far as Mr. Moosa is concerned, it is just as unfair for him to be examined in Mr. Wood's Court as in this.

His Worship—We have got to do something. This is an extraordinary tangle.

Mr. Goldring—I agree to a reduction of bail if the case is allowed to stand over till the conclusion of Moosa's case. But how can they go on together with Moosa a witness in one Court and the defendant in the other?

Mr. Hett—That is a very good reason for disposing of Allana's case now.

His Worship—One case is a summary one, the other is for a jury. I think I will continue this case now.

Mr. Goldring—Will Mr. Wood take the other case?

His Worship—That I cannot say.

Mr. Goldring—I think it is a great unfairness against Moosa in every way.

Mr. Potter—It is very unfair that a man must go into the box and be cross-examined in such a way as may incriminate him.

His Worship—We will only hear Mr. Marican so far, and if the case is to continue it will have to be remanded right over until after the other case.

Mr. Goldring, in opening his case, said the defendant was a bankrupt who obtained his discharge some few months ago, subject to certain suspension. On the application of his then solicitors, Messrs. Hastings and Hastings, he was allowed by the Judge to leave the Colony immediately, and it was principally upon that representation that his discharge was only suspended for one year. While still bankrupt, he approached the complainant through his solicitors with a request for employment. The defendant, formerly, was the proprietor of the business of Allana and Co., and he carried on a fairly flourishing business for some years, but owing to riotous living he succeeded in getting himself into difficulties.

Mr. Hett—I suppose my friend is going to prove all this?

Mr. Goldring—I'm going to call Mr. Fletcher, and to put in the defendant's public examination, which won't reflect on him. Proceeding, Mr. Goldring told the story of the bankruptcy, and stated that the defendant was subsequently engaged by Marican at a small monthly salary, the amount of which was never precisely fixed. Allana drew from \$50 to \$65 a month from the business. As Mr. Marican had his hands full at the Dragon Cycle Co., Moosa Ebrahim, who was also a bankrupt, acted in a friendly way by looking after

the business of Allana and Co. for him. On August 14th Mr. Moosa, in inspecting the books, saw an entry to the effect that \$195 had been drawn by the defendant. On inquiry he found that this amount was to redeem a watch which the defendant had pawned prior to his bankruptcy. The matter was brought to Marican's notice, and he informed Allana that the watch and chain must be considered as part of the assets of the business. Four or five days later, when Mr. Moosa went to the shop to check the cash, he found a shortage of \$250. Mr. Marican was informed, and he sent Moosa to look into the matter, but when he got back to the shop he found that the books had been altered by Allana. Marican then sent for the defendant and told him he would no longer put up with this. Allana proceeded to cry and weep, and said he would never do it again. In the meantime, through inquiries Mr. Marican made, he found that the defendant had returned to his evil way of living and was spending lots of money on American prostitutes. On August 3rd Mr. Marican saw the defendant in company with some disreputable people, and very intoxicated, and told him he would have nothing more to do with him. On the 25th Allana went to Marican and said: "If you give me my passage home and \$300 to pay my debts I will go away, and won't trouble you any more." Mr. Marican purchased a ticket for Bombay by the German mail steamer and gave it to the defendant, who disappeared, and as far as the complainant could make out went to Canton. Marican did not see him again until three days before the information in this case was signed, when he instructed the speaker to go on with the proceedings.

The complainant was called, gave evidence on the lines of his solicitor's opening statement, and the hearing was adjourned.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR DROSS OPIUM.

OPIUM FARMER'S DIFFICULTY.

Research by a Chinese has resulted in his finding a substance so nearly resembling opium dross as to deceive the Opium Farmer's tester. When this native was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Tuesday with being in possession of a quantity of dross opium, the tester declared in the witness-box that the exhibits before the Court were what the charge stated them to be. As the defendant denied this, however, his Worship decided to remand the case and submit the dross to the Government Analyst for examination. It has since transpired that some other commodity has been pounded down, put into a cloth and boiled, and then put over a pot of boiling opium dross. Thus the steam of the genuine article passes into the substitute and gives it the smell and flavour of the real dross, and, as has been stated, even deceives the testers in their analytical examination. This substance is sold to the dross dealers, who mix it with their genuine stock and sell it to the Farm. The Farmer is thus placed in a difficulty in connection with his dross business, and will probably have to go to the trouble of sifting this class of opium. When this discovery was made the charge against the defendant was withdrawn.

TRICKED AND ROBBED.

On Saturday a silk-robed Chinaman went into a silversmith's shop at Wanchai and ordered \$70 worth of gold ornaments for children, on which he paid a deposit of \$5. He asked that a foki of the shop be allowed to accompany him to his house with the parcel, and also to take with him some other jewellery which the rogue said his women folk might wish to purchase. The foki accompanied the trickster to the door of his supposed residence, where the latter took the jewellery from him to take up to his supposed family. After an absence of some five minutes the rogue returned and told the foki to go up and bargain with the women. The foki ascended the stairs to complete the deal, but found that the women knew nothing about the jewellery; and on going downstairs to question the purchaser, found that he had vanished. The police are inquiring into the matter.

THE AUTAU MURDER.

The hearing of the case in which two Chinese were charged with murdering an Indian Sergt. and an Indian constable near Autau in the New Territory was concluded before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on the 10th inst.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor prosecuted.

One of the accused, Wu Ngai, has been committed for trial already, and another is held by the Chinese Authorities at Namtau.

The other prisoner, Mak Tin Fuk, yesterday elected to enter the witness box and make a statement. He said that on the morning of August 20th he met five men sitting at the Lam Tsun Gap. One, Leung Fuk, asked him where he was going, and on his replying he was asked to sit down. After sitting for half an hour he observed two policemen approaching the Gap from the road. They were accompanied by a coolie who was carrying money. The five men rose, but defendant was asked to remain seated and to call out if he saw anyone approaching from the direction of Tai-po. The men, four of whom were armed, went down the Gap. They returned after an absence of twenty minutes, and defendant observed that all the men carried packages. He asked what they were carrying, and the reply was, "Money." He asked Leung Fuk where they had obtained it, and the latter said: "Don't you know, didn't you see the policemen carrying the money up?" Then he told the defendant that they struggled with the policemen and took the money. Witness got up and ran away, and saw the five men walk off along the hillside. Later, defendant saw Leung Fuk take the money into a house. He undid the package, gave witness \$12 and told him not to say anything. He remarked that if in future days anyone knew anything about it, it would be because he had been talking. After the money has been divided defendant saw one of the men put the wrappers and papers into the oven. Then they went their different ways. Three or four days later one of the men took a revolver to his house and asked him to take it away and sell it. Witness looked at it and asked if it was not a Government revolver, and one which they took from the other men. He said it was, and defendant asked him to take it back, remarking that he could not sell it for him. The caller told him he was going to Tai-po, and would leave the revolver with him. He replied that that would not do, as it was not lawful, and advised him to take it somewhere else.

Prisoner then asked his Worship to let him say what he wanted to say, so that he might die peacefully.

His Worship—Have you anything more to say?

Prisoner—Yes, I have plenty more to say. The Prisoner then stated that he came from a different village to the other men, and was falsely accused. When the other men were arrested, if he had been connected with the affair he would have departed. He was not arrested for a fortnight after the other men. He did not kill the policemen, or go to the Gap with that intention, so he did not fear to remain at his house. The other men, who were from a different village, would not say that their clansmen or cousins were in the affair.

In cross-examination prisoner said he had been a cook on a steamer. He did not report the robbery and murder to the police because he did not know the custom. Besides, he had been given \$12 to keep quiet.

Accused was committed for trial.

Mons. L. Ratard, French Consul-General at Shanghai, has received a fresh appointment and will shortly leave for Bogota, the capital of the Republic of Colombia, where he will take up the position of Minister Plenipotentiary for that as well as for the State of Cundinamarca. Prior to taking up his post in Colombia M. Ratard will proceed to Paris, and he expects to leave Shanghai at the beginning of next month. His successor in office at Shanghai is understood to be Mr. Dejean de la Batie, who is well-known there, having on previous occasions been in charge of the Consulate in the absence of Mr. Ratard.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

BAXTER SCHOOLS BAZAAR.

The annual sale of work in aid of the C. M. S. Baxter Schools, or Fairlea, as it is better known, took place on the 10th inst. at the City Hall. There was a large display of work of more than ordinary merit, and as it was tastefully arranged, the interior of the Hall presented a pleasing aspect. The ladies who took charge of the various stalls were:

Refreshment stall—Lady May, Mrs. Lyon, Mrs. Gresson.

Fancy stall—Mrs. Lander, Mrs. J. Hastings, Mrs. Badeley.

Pictures and frames stall—Mrs. Bell, Miss Penruddock, Mrs. Ede, Mrs. Bedford.

Fancy stall—Mrs. Tooker, Miss Bryer, Mrs. Walker.

Japanese stall—Miss Hazeland, Mrs. Waller, Mrs. Baker.

Fancy stall—Mrs. Hutton Potts, Misses Hutton Potts, Mrs. Timothy Wright.

Dolls stall—Mrs. Beck, Mrs. Edkins, Mrs. Pinckney.

Children's clothes stall—Mrs. Lammert, Mrs. Seth.

Woollen stall—Mrs. Thomson, Mrs. Piercy, Miss Hance.

Toys and sweets stall—Misses May, Misses Lander, Miss E. Hastings.

One dollar stall—Miss Armstrong, Miss Wallace.

Grab bag—Miss Pearce, Miss Harker.

The opening ceremony took place at three o'clock, when H. E. the Governor attended. There were also present his Lordship Bishop Lander, and a number of clergy.

The proceedings having been commenced with a Collect, the Bishop said that all present were aware that the sale was on behalf of the Church Missionary Society School, one of the oldest institutions in the Colony, and one that was so popular that it did not need advertising to secure a brisk sale. They were all delighted that His Excellency had kindly come to open the sale, and without further delay he would ask His Excellency to do so.

His Excellency—Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have very much pleasure in announcing the sale to be open, and everyone is at liberty to purchase as much as they like at once. (Applause.)

The ladies at Fairlea wish to thank His Excellency the Governor for opening the sale, the Harbour-Master for the use of flags, and the ladies who conducted the sale.

THE KOREAN COURT AND PRINCE ITO.

The first news of the Harbin tragedy published in Seoul was that Prince Ito had been assaulted by a Korean and was in a critical condition. The *Seoul Press* of the 28th inst. says:—

On receipt of the unfortunate news from Harbin via Tokyo, the Korean Emperor sent an autograph message to the Emperor of Japan on Tuesday evening expressing his grief and sympathy with His Imperial Japanese Majesty over the incident. At the same time His Majesty wired messages of heartfelt sympathy to Prince Ito in Harbin and his consort at Omori.

The retired Emperor also sent messages of deep sympathy to the Tokyo Court and Prince and Princess Ito separately.

The Emperor and retired Emperor have ordered, respectively, Mr. Yun Tukyung, Lord Chamberlain, and Mr. Cho Minheui, Steward in Toksu Palace, to proceed to Manchuria to meet Prince Ito. Surgeon-General Kikuchi, President of the Tai Han Hospital, was also ordered to Manchuria by the Court. They all left for Tairen yesterday morning by the Customs cruiser *Kwangche*.

A telegram from the Korean Crown Prince in Tokyo states that His Highness was shocked at the news that Prince Ito was assaulted by a Korean, and that he has ordered his aide-de-camp, Kim Eungsyon, to Manchuria.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

8th November.

DELIBERATIVE COUNCIL'S OFFICES.

The grand building which is to be the office and meeting place of the Deliberative Council is in course of construction just outside the East Gate. The land opposite to the site is owned by a Manchurian, who has begun to erect some small houses thereon, thus detracting from the dignity of the Council's building. The members of Council appealed to the Tartar General, and the offending Manchu has been ordered to cease his building operations and to remove the materials without delay. It has been further suggested to the owner that the Government would think him a very generous person if he were to present the land to the authorities.

PRISON OUTBREAK.

Some time ago there was an outbreak among the criminals confined in the Shun Tak Prison. A large number escaped and terrorised the neighbourhood. The authorities have, however, been successful in re-capturing nearly all these rascals. The gaolers of the prison were taken to Canton for trial and found guilty of gross negligence. They were sentenced to two years' imprisonment and the case was reported to the Viceroy. The Viceroy questioned the Provincial Judge as to whether he considered that there was any other cause for the outbreak beyond the carelessness of the warders, but the Judge considered the blame to be due to that cause only. The offending gaolers have been condemned to serve their time in the very prison of which they formerly had charge.

CHEAP OIL.

Reports from Kwong Sai state that the crop of ground nuts is a remarkably good one this year, and not for twenty years have such good results been obtained. Ground nut oil has been somewhat dear lately and the merchants have reached a good harvest of profit, but the price is already falling and before long it will be lower still. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of rice, which seems to be for ever on the rise. Rightly or wrongly the merchants attribute the high price to the recent storms which are reported to have destroyed very large quantities of the growing grain.

TRIAD SOCIETY.

In the district outside the East Gate there are very many persons belonging to that brotherhood known as the "Sham Hop Wui," or Triad Society. This fraternity, which has for its ostensible reason of existence the overthrow of the reigning dynasty and the restoration of the Ming, is in reality but too often a brotherhood of thieves. On Saturday more than ten were arrested near Sa Ho. They at once confessed to being members of the league, but protested that they had committed no robberies. Being further questioned, they said that the sole reason for joining the society was that the locality contained so many members of it, that the only means of preserving one's safety was in joining this fraternity.

CUTTING DOWN EXPENSES.

For many years the clerks attached to the Viceroy's Yamen have been in receipt of a gratuity for chair hire. The Viceroy has ordered that this shall be no longer paid. He says that these men have a sufficient salary and that if they wish to ride in chairs they must do so at their own expense, and if they do not choose to pay, they must walk.

POTTERY-MAKERS ON STRIKE.

In the Nam Hoi District there is a little town called Shek Wan that is greatly noted for its excellent pottery. The workers lately went out on strike, the reason being that becoming too greedy in their demands for more pay the masters dismissed many of them and employed female workers. The strike speedily grew into a riot and the assistance of the authorities was asked for. Deputy Kam called both sides to a conference and a compromise was agreed to. The women were dismissed and the men taken on at the old rate of pay. Work was then resumed.

DANGER ON THE RIVER.

The attention of the Water Police has been called to the over-crowded state of many of the passenger junks. From time to time serious accidents happen and the crowded state of the

vessels makes the loss of life very great. The presence of steam launches is another source of danger, as these vessels rush up and down the river as if the place belonged to them and seemingly having no care as to whether they run anyone down or not. Only yesterday a sampan was knocked to pieces by one of them, and last night a boat in which the writer was crossing the river was within an ace of being run down by a launch which was tearing along with only one small light about the size of that of a farthing dip. It would be to the credit of the Water Police to see that a slower rate of speed is maintained while travelling on the crowded reaches near the City.

THE WEATHER.

After several days of bitter winds and biting cold, warm weather has again set in and to-day is as warm as any day in the summer. No wonder that many persons are suffering from colds and kindred evils!

November 10th.

REVIEW OF TROOPS.

Yesterday the Viceroy went to Yin Tong to review the newly-trained troops. Before his arrival, Admiral Li, the Provincial Judge, the Taotai of Industries and the Salt Commissioner had assembled in the camp. His Excellency first made a full inspection of the barracks, parade ground and stores and then proceeded to see the troops drill. The Viceroy then took tiffin in the barracks, after which was another display of drill. Having expressed his satisfaction His Excellency returned to the Yamen.

BRIGANDAGE.

In the Luen Kow village in the Shun Tak district is the large house of a wealthy man named Chang. On Monday night a gang of well-armed robbers proceeded to the place with the intention of looting it. They were challenged by the village watchmen, and a fight took place, which lasted for over an hour. Two men were fatally wounded and the watchmen were driven off. The brigands then pillaged the house at their leisure and made off with over \$5,000 worth of valuables.

A WASTE OF MONEY.

They know well how to waste money in the Shun Tak district. In one village they hold periodical processions in honour of a deity called Yuen Fan, but latterly the funds for this purpose have been used to support a school in the village and the processions have fallen into abeyance. Now the village elders have shut up the school and the procession is to be revived, and the 7th and 8th of the 10th moon have been fixed for the purpose. Considerably more than \$1,000 is to be spent on this useless performance.

AN ENLIGHTENED VILLAGE.

A well-known family in the Tai Fu village in the Nam Hoi district some time ago opened a school for the study of the principles of Self-Government. Persons came from the surrounding villages to receive instruction and have used the knowledge so gained to better the condition of their own places. In this village opium dens and gambling places are strictly prohibited, and though formerly noted as being one of the most turbulent villages in the whole district, it now has the reputation of being the abode of law-abiding persons.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

A meeting of the Deliberative Council for the preparation of Government was held on Sunday. The Viceroy and most of his higher officers were present. Nearly all the time was taken up in discussing ways and means for the suppression of gambling. It was especially noted that the Tartar General and all the other Manchurian officers were absent from the meeting.

BURIAL OF THE DOWAGER EMPRESS.

Following the instructions of the Minister of War, the Viceroy granted a holiday yesterday to the military forces and the students of the Government Schools. The occasion was the burial of the Empress Dowager.

A Spaniard named Honorato Apestagina Pascual, who is stated in the Manila papers to have been running a cinematograph show in Hongkong, is charged with attempting to smuggle 17 kilos of opium into the Philippines. He has been released on a cash bail of P. 1,000 pending the trial.

CONCERT AT THE THEATRE.

The concert given by the Port and Starboard Light Pierrots, in aid of St. John's Cathedral Organ Fund at the Theatre Royal on Monday was from beginning to end thoroughly enjoyable one. H.E. the Governor was present with a party from Government House but the audience was not a large one. The first part of the programme was devoted to miscellaneous numbers, the second being occupied entirely by the pierrots in costume. In the first part after a pretty opening selection by the String Band of the Buffs, Miss Parke, in a sweet voice and with excellent expression sang "Love's Garden," and being recalled gave a short but equally acceptable song as an encore. The next item was a duet "Watchman, what of the night?" which was rendered by Messrs. E. B. Ayris and R. E. White in capital style and may well be described as the best number in the programme. Mr. H. Wilkins contributed an amusing musical sketch on Hongkong, which was very well composed, and in response to an encore he gave a musical recitation. A trio "I Navigante" (The Mariners) by Miss Parke, Messrs. Ayris and White followed and was much appreciated. Mr. W. A. Hannibal evoked much hearty laughter by his humorous recitals, as he always does, and he was followed by Mr. R. E. White with the song "The Trumpeter" which was finely rendered with string band accompaniment. The first part of the programme concluded with a well-played selection by the band from "The Country Girl." Part II consisted of eleven numbers by the Port and Starboard Light Pierrots who elaborated the entertainment which they supplied on a previous occasion at Kowloon and the audience applauded their efforts heartily, encores being numerous.

VOLUNTEER CAMP.

To-day (Saturday) the Hongkong Volunteers go under canvas at Custom's Pass in the New Territory for a period of eight days. Hitherto the annual camp has been held on Stonecutters' Island, when the period of training extended to sixteen days. The proximity of the encampment enabled Volunteers to go to camp and yet attend business daily, but it has been decided this year that the camp should be conducted on more military lines. Naturally it does not permit Volunteers attending in such large numbers as formerly, as the greater distance does not allow them to get back to business, but it is hoped that the new arrangement will result in the greater efficiency of the Corps.

The Volunteers will leave by launch on Saturday afternoon and will arrive in camp at 4 o'clock. The Artillery, Engineer and Infantry sections will undergo a special course of training, the Artillery being engaged with the quick-firing guns, and howitzers, the Engineers doing field work, and the Infantry taking part in tactical schemes.

Visitors will be allowed in camp on Sundays.

CHINESE OFFICIALS DISMISSED FOR "SQUEEZING."

An imperial edict is translated by the *Peking Daily News* as follows:—

On presentation of the Memorial to the Throne by the Yuchuanpu impeaching some officials, an Imperial Decree is issued to the effect that Expectant Prefect Lu Hsi Kwei, the Chief Translator of the Peking-Fengtien Railway Administration, being a covetous man, with unseemly behaviour; Sub-Prefect Wang Ai Chi, the Chief Translator of the Pin-Lo Railway Administration, being avaricious and in the habit of squeezing contractors; Expectant Magistrate of an independent Department, Lo Chun Hsi, Secretary of the Peking-Fengtien Railway Administration, being a brazen man, and the charge of extortion against him has been proven; Assistant District Magistrate Lin Ping Chang, Station Master of the Peking-Fengtien Railway Administration, being a man of malignant feelings and in the habit of receiving bribes; are all to be dismissed from service and are not on any account to be reinstated. Lu Hsi Kwei is to be sent back to his native place by the local authorities concerned.

MILITARY WEDDING AT THE CATHEDRAL.

PAXTON-DENNYS.

At St. John's Cathedral on Thursday, in the presence of a large congregation, the wedding was solemnised of Lieutenant Alexander Norman Paxton, R.E., son of Mr. R. C. Paxton, of Walmer, Kent, to Miss Florence Gertrude Dennys, daughter of Mr. Henry Lardner Dennys (President of the Law Society of Hongkong, and formerly Crown Solicitor). Punctually at half-past two the bride arrived at the Cathedral in a sedan chair decorated with greenery and flowers, and was led up the aisle by her father, followed by daintily-dressed little bridesmaids and train-bearers.

The bride's dress, which was beautifully made by Madame Flint, was of very soft French satin, made Princess fashion and trimmed with beautiful hand embroidery in shades of ivory silk. The very graceful Watteau train was caught to the waist with large embroidered buttons and the long tight-fitting sleeves of open tucked tulle and the pretty turned-down collar were both the latest Paris ideas. The lovely old Matines lace veil which the bride wore was lent by Mrs. Edwards. The bride carried a beautiful shower bouquet of choice white flowers, tied with broad satin ribbons, and for her only ornament wore the pendant of pearl, given her by the bridegroom. The wedding ring was, we understand, made by one of the bridegroom's fellow-officers.

The bridesmaids were Miss Phoebe, Iris and Dione May. Their pretty frocks were made of Japanese silk gauze with a blue satin stripe over white satin, and on their heads they wore guipure lace caps with wide wings of the lace, and carried posy bouquets of pink roses. There were two small train-bearers—Miss Vivienne Dennys and Master William Potts—the little girl in white silk gauze with hand-embroidered blue flowers on it, and a lace cap with bunches of blue ribbons, the little boy in a white man-o-war sailor's suit with pale blue collar and white cap. The bridegroom presented the bridesmaids with gold shamrock brooches with jade centres, and the little page with a pin to correspond. Mrs. Dennys' bouquet was made of red roses tied with green ribbons to match her gown—all the bouquets being supplied by Miss Fairall.

Mr. John Crookenden, of the Buffs, was "best man."

The Rt. Rev. Bishop of Victoria officiated, assisted by the Rev. F. T. Johnson (Chaplain of the Cathedral) and the Rev. Dallas Ennis (Chaplain to the Forces), and the service was fully choral. After the signing of the register, the military and naval officers in the congregation stepped out into the aisle and formed with their swords an arch of steel under which the bridal party passed as they left the Cathedral.

The reception afterwards held at Craig Ryrie, the Peak, was largely attended by friends of the happy couple.

The bride went away in a pale pink cloth costume with touches of brown and with a hat en suite.

Following is a list of the presents:

Bride's gift to bridegroom:—Gold and jade studs and links and miniature.
Bridegroom's gift to bride:—Pearl pendant, jade and gold bracelet and jade and gold chain.
Silver tea set and kettle and cheque from Mr H. L. Dennys.
Jade pendant—Mr H. L. Dennys.
Cheque—Mr A. J. Dennys, Lieut. in.
Silver bowl—Mr H. L. Dennys, Junior.
Silver brushes—Miss Vivienne Dennys.
Drawn thread tea cloth—Miss Major.
Silver tea tray—Colonel Dumbleton and the officers Royal Engineers.
Silver bowl—The officers Royal Artillery.
Silver cigarette box—The subalterns and attached officers, 105th Mahara's L.I.
Travelling clock—Some officers the Buffs.
Silver frame—Hon Mr F. A. Hazeland.
Silver tea spoons and sugar tongs—Hon Sir F. H. and Lady May.
Blackwood opium stool—Hon Mr and Mrs Brewin.
Cloisonne umbrella handle—Miss Langstein.
Japanese lacquer tray—Mrs Langstein.
Silver scent bottle—Mr and Mrs Thompson.
Silver vases—Lieut. C. W. Beckwith, R.N., Mr J. H. King and Mr W. L. Shenton.
Silver napkin rings—Captain and Mrs Craig.
Blackwood frame—Mr Greig.
Mother of pearl fruit dishes—Captain and Mrs Worthington.

Silver vases—Captain and Mrs Collingwood.
Silver sweet dishes—Dr and Mrs Forsyth.
Silver salt cellars—Hon Mr and Mrs Gresson.
Silver vases—Mr Browrigg.
Silver pepper pots—Col. and Mrs Bedford.
Ivory fan—Mr A. Chapman, R.A.
Silver mounted claret jug—Mr J. Crookenden, the Buffs.
Silver vases—Major J. McCarthy, R.A.M.C.
Foolish lacquer table—Dr, Mrs and Miss Clarke.
Blackwood table—Mr D. Wolf, Mr C. Carr and Mr G. Worcester.
Silver vases—Mr and Mrs Eves.
Silver sweet dish—Mr Dowbiggin.
Chinese embroidered blotting pad—Miss Barker.
Cloisonne vases—Major and Mrs Eaton.
Chinese work bag—Mr Bevington.
Silver sauce boat—Hon Mr Rees Davies.
Set of drawn thread tea cloths, table centres, &c.—Hon Mr and Mrs Messer.
Silver sweet dishes—Mr and Mrs Mackie.
Silver toast racks—Lieut. G. Benyon, R.N.
Chinese silver model—Mr W. Daniel.
Blackwood and silver inkstand—Mr and Miss Newall.
Blackwood stool—Mr and Mrs Looker.
Cloisonne vase—Mr C. Bulmer Johnson.
Chinese tea set—Mr and Mrs Collison Morley.
Silver vase—Mr Reader Harris.
Blackwood cabinet—Mr and Mrs J. Hastings.
Cheque—Mrs Edwards.
Silver cigar lighter—Captain Marescaux, R.N.
Silver glove box—Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C.
Blue China vases—The Bishop and Mrs Lander.
Enamelled necklace—Mrs Arratoon Seth.
Brass incense burner—Mr P. Sydenham Dixon.
Travelling clock—Major and Mrs Wait, R.E.
Salt cellars—Mr and Mrs Wright.
Silver frame—Mr, Mrs and Miss Tennent.
Ivory frame—Miss Hazeland.
Mother of pearl fruit dishes—Dr and Mrs Stedman.
Blackwood opium stool—Mr and Mrs Lafrentz.
Blackwood and silver tray—Mr and Miss Bryer.
Silver butter dishes—Mr J. Barton.
Silver trinket box—Mr and Mrs Evan Ormiston.
Silver fruit dish—Mr and Mrs Paget Hett.
Lace d'olies—Mr and Mrs Harvey.
Embroidered table centres—Miss Ella Rowe.
Silver Mustard Pots—Mr and Mrs Wakeman.
Silver pin box—Hon Mr H. H. J. Gompertz.
Silver vases—Mr D. Donne.
Silver bowl—Mr Ho Kom Tong.
Travelling clock—Mr and Mrs Stabb.
Silver mounted bamboo powder box—Mr G. W. Orme.
Roll of silk—Mr Hartnell Beavis.
Silver vases—Colonel and Mrs Dann.
Salt cellars—Mr and Mrs Cooker.
Silver sweet dish—Mr P. Jacks.
Silver rose bowl—Colonel and Mrs Lambert and Miss Lord.
Cloisonne bowl—Mr and Mrs J. R. M. Smith.
Drawn thread tea table cloth—Mr and Mrs Shelton Hooper.
Chinese porcelain bowl—Colonel and Mrs Chamier, R. A.
Silver tea caddy—Mr Wong Hing.
Cheque—Mr and the Misses Wilkin.
Silver inkstand—Mr and Mrs Patrick Jones.
Silver enamelled combs—Mrs Lyon.
Silver hair pin box—Hon Mr F. J. and Mrs Badeley.
Silver photograph frame—Colonel W. H. Lander, A. P. D.
Silver dessert knives and forks—Mr F. B. L. Bowley.
Ivory horn and paper knife—Mr and Mrs Lawrence Gibbs.
Sandal wood fan—Mrs Prior.
Silver vases—Mr H. L. O. Garrett and Mr F. V. B. Kirwan.
Cruet stand—Mr and Mrs A. Turner.
Almond dishes—Mrs Basil Taylor.
Silver powder box—Mr J. R. Wood.
Silver frame—Mr C. D. Melbourne.
Drawn thread table cloth, &c.—Mr Walter Dowley.
Silver vase—Mr H. Murray Bain.
Chinese vase—Mrs Black.
Lace parasol cover—Mrs Beck.
Silver tea pot, milk jug and sugar basin—General Broadwood and Captain Heathcote.
Pearl and gold brooch—Mr and Mrs Adamson.
One set silver liqueur cups—Mr and Mrs Hutton Potts.
Silver hat pin stand—The Misses Ports.
Silver button hook—Mrs Grant Smith.
Silver vase—Mr and Mrs Edkins.
Gold and rattan bangle—Mr and Mrs Allen Dennys (Penang).
One set silver menu holders—Dr. Fitzwilliams.

RETURNED EXILES.

Three natives were charged at the Magistracy on Monday, two before Mr. Hallifax and one before Mr. Wood, with returning from banishment. The first defendant who appeared before Mr. Hallifax admitted the charge, and the second informed his Worship that the first man told him he could come back and go to Singapore.

His Worship—You cannot go to Singapore now. You will both go to jail for six months and be exposed in the stocks for six hours.

The other offender, who was charged before Mr. Wood, fared worse than his compatriots, for he was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment and six hours' stocks.

THE TRADE OF KIAOCHAU IN 1908

The report of the Director of Customs in Kiaochau states that the total volume of trade for the year 1908 amounted to £1,600,000, being an increase of 10 per cent. as compared with the previous year. Imports slightly declined, so that the increase is entirely represented by exports. These have received a remarkable fillip by the calling at Tsingtau since April of the P. and O. steamers, which give a direct communication with European ports. The number of ships sailing under the German flag declined from 281 to 222, and those under the British flag from 127 to 109, while the number of Japanese ships, on the other hand, increased from 58 to 79, and the Chinese from 5 to 20.

THE CHINESE SENATE.

It is reported by Chinese dispatches that the members of the new Senate to be organized will consist of:—

1. Members elected by Imperial Clansmen, Princes, Manchu, Chinese and Mongolian Nobles, officials in the Ministries and Offices, on the 1st of the 2nd month.

2. Members appointed by Decree from a list, submitted by the Senate, of the following persons recommended by metropolitan or provincial officials: Eminent scholars who have obtained ranks otherwise than by examination; authors of valuable works, and persons qualified to enter the highest academy of learning. These are limited to thirty in number.

3. Members elected by voters and tax-payers.

4. Members elected by and from the Provincial Assemblies, 9 from Chihli, 7 from Kiangsu and Chékiang; 6 from Kiangsi, Szechuan and Shantung; 5 from Anhui, Hupeh, Hunan, Honan, Shansi and Kuangtung; 4 from Fukien, Shensi and Yunnan; 3 from Mukden, Kansu and Kuangsi; and 2 from Kirin, Heilungkiang, Kueichow and Chinese Turkestan. Double the required number will first be nominated by the Assemblies, from which number the Viceroy or Governor of the province will finally select the assigned members.

THE LAMA PONTIFFS.

In its "Notes on Native Affairs," the *N. C. Daily News* says:—

It will be remembered that, when the Dalai Lama visited Peking last year, the Imperial Government spared neither expense nor trouble for his reception in order to secure his affection and loyalty to China. He was received in Court with great consideration, preparations on a luxurious scale were made wherever he went, and a venerable title was conferred on him by Imperial Edict. His leaning towards the Russians, however, gave no little concern to the Government; and much pressure had to be brought to bear upon the Dalai Lama to secure his return to Lhasa and to prevent his paying an intended visit to Russia on his way to Tibet. After he arrived at Lhasa, his brother Pontiff, the Panshen Lama, felt envious of the rewards that the Dalai Lama had received, and it was reported that he, the Panshen Lama, intended to follow the Dalai's example and to visit Peking. The Government dreaded having to incur another item of great expense in providing for his travel and visit, and prevailed upon him to relinquish this intention.

In spite of the efforts to engage his goodwill, the Government has cause to suspect the Dalai's loyalty; and the Imperial Residents in Lhasa have recommended that the Panshen Lama, his co-Pontiff, be awarded some marks of favour, so that he may serve as a check on the Dalai Lama, and strengthen the hands of the Residents in introducing reform measures in Tibet. It appears that this move has produced some result, for it is reported that the Dalai and the Panshen Lamas are now in dispute over their respective powers. The Government, it is said, has telegraphed to the Residents to interpose and make peace between the two Pontiffs.

COMMERCIAL

IMPORTS:—

RICE.

HONGKONG, 12th November:—The prices are advancing, large demands having come forward.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$5.10	to	\$5.15
" Round, Good quality ..	5.15	"	5.20
" Long	5.25	"	5.30
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	5.05	"	5.10
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	5.30	"	5.35
" White,	5.35	"	5.40
" Fine Cargo	5.50	"	5.55

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, Nov. 11th.—We beg to continue our advice of the 28th ult., since when the movements in our various Opium markets have been as follows:—

	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian
Stocks on the 28th Oct., 1909—1,204½	2,01½	881	914	
Oct., 28th Imports per Poona ..	20	—	—	—
Nov., 3rd " " " " " " " " " "	350	115	—	—
" 3rd " " " " " " " " " "	425	140	—	—
" 6th " " " " " " " " " "	—	66	—	—
" 8th " " " " " " " " " "	150	50	—	—
Less Exports to Shanghai ..	1,204½	2,957	1,252	914
Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight ..	38	449	178	—
Estimated Stocks this day ..	987½	1,767	775	8½

Bengal.—The rise in native Opium and good consumption caused prices to rush up to \$1,620 for Patna and \$1,600 for Benares. At the close the market is quiet and no quotation can be given.

Malwa.—The market is very firm, but in the absence of any business we cannot quote.

Persian.—Superior drug has changed hands in small quantities at \$1,185.

HONGKONG, November 11th.

Quotations are:—

Malwa New	\$1,250/1,280	per picul
Malwa Old	\$1,290/1,320	do.
Malwa Older	\$1,330/1,370	do.
Malwa Very Old	\$1,380/1,420	do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$1,050/1,100	do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$1,160/1,200	do.
Patna New	\$1,475	per chest.
Patna Old	\$1,475	do.
Benares New	\$1,475	do.
Benares Old	\$ —	do.

YARN.

HONGKONG.—Mr. P. Eduljee, in his Report dated 12th Nov., states:—The high prices now asked for Indian spinnings is turning the attention of dealers to other imported and local threads, and the aggregate business of the past fortnight is even smaller than during the previous two weeks. Demand is also much checked by the consideration of clearance before China New Year. Holders, however, having in view the condition of the Bombay market and the higher cost of importations, are not anxious sellers, and although prices here and there show some variation we make no alteration in our quotations, which in the absence of any material business may be considered the more or less nominal. Receipts during the interval have exceeded the offtake, stocks showing a small increase on last estimate. The market closes quiet. Bombay continues strong with little or no business passing for China, where prices rule much below replacing cost. Sales of the interval aggregate 2,275 bales; arrival amount to 9,412 bales; unsold stock estimated at 19,000, and sold but uncleared yarn in second hands at 30,000 bales. Local Manufacture:—No business is reported. Japanese Yarn:—Quiet throughout. Raw Cotton:—There has been no movement in Indian descriptions and with the exception of a parcel of 150 bales old Bengal the market is here stock. In China kinds some 80 bales New Troongchow are reported to have changed hands at \$37½, leaving 50 bales in stock. Quotations are Indian \$30 to \$35 China \$33 to 38. Exchange on India has remained almost steady and closes to-day at Rs. 129½ for T/T and Rs. 129½ Post. On Shanghai 74½ and on Japan 84½. The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 6th inst., viz:—Indian High prices check consumption. Total sales about 4,500 bales with an estimated stock of 48,000 bales, firm. Japanese:—In fair enquiry at somewhat firmer rates. Sales about 1,500 bales on the basis of Tls. 105½ to 113½ for No. 16s. and Tls. 117½ to 121 for No. 20s. Local:—Nos. 12s. and 14s. are in good demand. Total sales about 2,000 bales at Tls. 105½ to 104 for No. 14s. and Tls. 107 for No. 16s.

COAL

HONGKONG, November, 11th.—The arrivals of coal since the 28th ult. amounted to 17,800 tons of Japanese; 5,300 Hongay. The coal expected is 46,200 tons Japanese, 6,000 tons Hongay, and 4,500 tons Borneo. Quotations according to Messrs. Hughes and Hough's circular are as follows:—

Cardiff	\$18.00 to 24.00	ex-godown, nominal.
Australian	\$11.00 to 13.00	ex-godown, nominal.
Yubari Lump	\$12.00	Nominal.
Miki Lump	\$10.50 to 11.00	ex-ship, nominal.
Moji Lump	\$7.75 to \$9.50	ex-ship, steady.
Moji Unscreened	\$6.00 to \$8.00	ex-ship, steady.
Akaike Lump	\$8.75 to \$9.00	ex-ship, steady.
Labuan Lump	\$9.00	ex-ship sellers.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai, 5th Nov., 1909, state:—There is no change in the market since our last, in fact the wet weather and Race holidays combined have practically put a stop to everything in this department of the trade. Through the continued advance in Cotton all forward business is quite impracticable, and yet holders of stock here find it impossible to obtain any adequate offers for the goods they have on hand. Many firms are advised by their home friends not to sell Manchester goods, while holders of American makes have had offers from New York to buy back, and we understand some have actually been shipped. This should certainly serve to strengthen the market, though the principal native holders declare they find it almost impossible to raise their prices more than a candareen or two at a time, and then for the veriest retail quantities. There is a small inquiry all the time for American goods, and two or three hundred bales are changing hands amongst the natives every day, but prices are a long way below what importers will accept. And this with a difference in Exchange and Cotton of fully 8½% against the Importer within the five weeks! There is nothing fresh to report as yet regarding the outside markets, though it is feared some damage may have been done to the partially harvested crops, through the heavy rains of the last few days. Newchwang and Tientsin dealers are buying here quietly, chiefly American goods and Cotton Yarn, but although full rates are being paid for these latter it is not difficult to get any advance on the woven goods. The River markets are drawing their supplies for the most part from the Auctions, the clearances thence being quite satisfactory on the whole. The Manchester market is being dominated by the price of American Cotton, which appears to have been affected during the last few weeks by speculators operating on the New York market. Judging by the quotations for "futures" high prices are now assured for the rest of the season and Manufacturers are badly left. According to the latest Mail advices it was fully expected that prices would give way before long and spinners were awaiting the decline before buying. An idea can be formed of the present position by a recent quotation for a favorite cloth on this market making it the equivalent of Tls. 3.40, whereas the last sale price here was in the neighborhood of Tls. 2.80. The latest Liverpool quotations for Mid. American are 7.95d. "spot" and 7.83d. February/March option, while Egyptian is quoted a penny up since last week, namely 11½d. The Export from Lancashire last month of Plain Cottons to Hongkong and China was 23,000,000 yards, against 25,000,000 yards the same month last year. The New York market is very strong, and as mentioned above overtures are being made to re-purchase goods on this market. The Cotton quotations received on the 2nd inst. were 14.29 cents for January and 15.06 cents for March, while this morning 14.99 cents comes for December. The Yarn Market has resumed its activity again, operators being unable to withstand the firmness of Importer of Indian Spinings, in whose hands the bulk of the stock is now. A further advance is established with a more general demand. Bombay is firm, with a small business doing for November/December shipment at well maintained prices. Japanese and Local Yarns are also firmer, though business is rather more limited. Cotton is tending upwards. The Ewo and Yuen Fong Auctions have taken place as usual and on the whole have shown rather more firmness, especially the latter. Grey Shirtings, with perhaps the exception of 12-lbs. and 14½-lbs. have all improved somewhat. White Shirtings and Irishes realised distinctly better prices all round, and T. Cloths and Jeans were both firmer. Turkey Reds were all firmer at the Lie Kee sale, but this morning somewhat irregular prices were paid, though higher on the whole. Fast Black Italians and Venetians have sold at steady to firm prices. Woollens have kept fairly steady.

HONGKONG PRICES CURRENT.

HONGKONG, 12th November, 1909.

COTTON PIECE GOODS—	
Grey Shirtings—6lbs. piece	\$2.00 to 2.10
" 7 lbs. "	2.50 to 2.60
" 8.4 lbs. "	3.10 to 4.35
" 10 lbs. "	4.30 to 6.00
White Shirtings—54/56 reed ..	3.00 to 3.80
" 58/60 ..	3.40 to 5.80
" 64/66 ..	6.10 to 8.10
" Fine	5.60 to 10.10
" Book-folds ..	3.60 to 6.60
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.70 to 2.00
T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y ..	2.30 to 2.60
" 7 lbs. "	2.70 to 3.40
" 6 lbs. "Mexicans," ..	—
" 7 lbs. "	4.05 to 4.40
" 8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.) ..	3.30 to 4.55
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14 lbs. }	5.00 to 6.35
FANCY COTTONS—	
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 6 lbs. piece }	1.90 to 4.75
Brocades—Dyed	0.12½ to 0.16
Chinese—Assorted	0.09 to 0.30
Velvets—Black, 22 in.,	0.26 to 0.55
Velveteens—18 in.,	0.25 to 0.28
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk per dozen }	0.70 to 1.50
WOOLLENS—	
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.70 to 2.00
" German,	2.00 —
Habit, Medium & Broad Sloths ..	1.25 to 3.00
Long Ellis—Scarlet, 7-9 lbs. piece	7.80 to 9.40
" Assorted ..	7.90 to 9.40
Camlets—Assorted ..	—
WHEATEN FLOUR—	
Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches }	14.00 to 21.00
" Assorted	—
Orleans—Plain	9.00 to 12.00
Blankets—8 to 12½ lbs. }	0.60 to 1.50
RAW COTTON—	
Bombay	picul \$30.00 to \$34.00
Bengal (New), Rangoon and Dacca	32.50 to 35.00
Shanghai and Japanese ...	32.00 to 37.00
Tungchow and Ningpo ...	33.00 to 38.00
METALS—	
Iron—Nail Rod	picul \$ 4.10
" Square, Flat, Round Bar (Engl.) ...	4.05
" Swedish Bar	4.20
" Small Round Rod	4.60
" Hoop, ½ to 1½ in.,	5.60
" Wire, 16/25 oz.,	9.50
" Old Wire Rope	3.00
Lead—L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ...	—
" Australian	9.80
" Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/28 oz. ...	41.00
" Vivian's, 16/32 oz., ..	41.00
" Elliot's, 16/28 oz. ...	41.00
" Tin,	90.00
" Tin-Plates,	box 7.50
" Steel	cwt. case —
MISCELLANEOUS—	
Quicksilver,	picul 197.50 to —
Window Glass,	box 5.40
Kerosene Oil,	case —
Altpetre, No. 1	picul \$12.00 to 12.50
" Do. No. 2	11.00 to 11.75
" Do. No. 3	9.20 to 10.70
Dayton, per bag of 50 lbs.	gross \$2.66
Brown Bear	2.64
Choice	2.67
Blue Stem (paten),	3.00
White Lily	2.67
White Fawn	2.66
Morjon	2.67
Cow	2.67
Private Brands	2.67

EXPORTS:—

CAMPHOR

HONGKONG, 12th November:—The above quoted is at a standstill and prices remain as last quoted.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Somali*, sailed on 4th November, 1909: For Manchester—10 bales waste silk, or Christiania—1 case p/effects. For Mar-eilles—300 bales waste silk, 100 pkges. tea, 100 cases staraniseed, 9 cases hats, 13 pkges. human hair. For London—182 pkges. t a, 2 cases woodware, 59 bales canes with root, 50 casks preserves, 250 cases preserves, 19 cases chinaware, 146 rolls matting, 10 cases v/effects, 2 cases blackwoodware, 50 bales feathers.

Per M. M. steamer *Tourane* sailed on the 9th November, 1909:—For Lyons.—285 bales raw silk. For Marseilles.—285 bales raw silk, 27 cases feathers, 45 cases provisions, 2 cases silk goods, 15 bales hemp, 29 packages sundries. For Option.—500 bales waste silk, 22 cases hats, 10 cases ylang ylang. For Hamburg.—450 cases cassia, 40 packages human hair. For Rotterdam.—450 cases cassia. For Havre.—63 cases porcelain, 40 packages human hair, 25 bristles. For Antwerp.—10 cases paper.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS

HONGKONG, 12th November, 1909.—The market shows no sign of improvement and rates continue weak but with no great changes to report. The Rubber market has steadied, but business has been very restricted. Exchange on London closes at 1/8 1/2 T/T, and on Shanghai at 7 1/4.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai remain unchanged and with no business to report. The London rate also remains at £91. Nationals continue at 65 nominal.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been on offer during the week at 84 1/2, but no sales have resulted; a small demand at 84 1/2, however, remains unsatisfied. North China has improved in the North to 106 with buyers. Canton has found further buyers at 16 1/2. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Chinas have changed hands at 114, but at the close there are no sellers under 115. Hongkong's rule steady at 375, with no business to report.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have declined to 30 1/2, at which business has been done. Indes are in request at 60, but no shares are forthcoming. Shanghai quotes 45 Tls. sellers. A small parcel of Star Ferrys (old) have been placed, and a few more are wanted at 26. The new issue, however, is obtainable at quotation. Douglas and China and Manilas remain out of favour and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have continued in some demand and sales have taken place at 151, 152 and 152 1/2, the market closing firm at 153. Luzons are enquired for in a small way at 20, but we have heard of no transactions.

MINING.—We have no changes or business to report under this heading.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have receded to 53 1/2 with sales and close with sellers at that rate. Kowloon Wharfs have also ruled rather weaker and sales have been reported at 62 1/2 and 62, closing with sellers at the higher rate. Shanghai Docks after ruling steady for the early part of the week at 77 and 77 1/2, have receded in the North to 76, but buyers at the last named rate prevail at the close. Hongkew Wharfs have declined in the North to 134.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have changed hands at 104 1/2, and close with sellers at that rate. West Points are enquired for at 43 1/2, but shares are not available at the moment. Hotels remain steady at 75 and 43 1/2, and sales have been effected at those rates, the market closing with further buyers. Other stocks under this heading show no change.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong Cottons have been the medium of a fair business at 6. Ewos have declined in the North to 140 and Soychees to 435, while Internationals and Laou Kung Mows have improved to 99 and 111 respectively.

RUBBERS.—The market has been dull, but rates with few exceptions have ruled very steady and in some cases show important improvements. Shelfords have changed hands at 34 and 35, Castlefields at 51/6 and later at 53/6, closing at 55. Sungie Chohs at 44/6, Ledbury's at 42/6, 44 and 45, closing with buyers. Kuala Lumpurs have been placed at 93 and close at 95. Sapongs at 23 and Anglo-Malay at 15/6, Pegohs at \$24 and \$25, and Belgownie at 69.

MISCELLANEOUS.—The following sales have taken place under this heading: China Providents at 9 1/2, Cements at 7 1/2, Ropes at 23. China Lights at 6, and Electrics at 20 1/2. The market closes with sellers of Cements, Dairys, Electrics, Ices, Ropes, Union Water Boats, Audrys, United Asbestos, Watkin's, Watson's and Powell's, and with buyers of China Gas Bell's Asbestos and Philippines at quotations.

Quotations are as follows:—

Stocks	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$995, sellers.
National B. of China	£6	£91
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	12/6d.	\$10, buyers
China-Borneo Co.....	\$12	\$12 1/2, sellers
China Light & P. Co....	\$10	\$6, sales
China Provident	\$1	\$9.50, sales & buy
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo Cotton S. & W.	Tls. 50	Tls. 140
Hongkong C. S. Co.	\$10	\$6, sales
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 90
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 111
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 435
Dairy Farm Co.....	\$6	\$16 1/2, sellers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$62 1/2, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$53 1/2, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$9, sellers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd	Tls. 100	Tls. 76
S'hai & H. Wharf....	Tls. 100	Tls. 135
Penwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$11, sellers
G. Island Cement Co	\$10	\$7 1/2, sales & sel.
Hongkong & C. Gas...	£10	\$210, buyers
Hongkong Electric...	\$10	\$20 1/2, sellers
Hongkong Hotel Co. }	\$50	\$75, sales & buy.
Hongkong Ice Co.....	\$25	\$43 1/2, buyers
H'kong Rope M. Co....	\$10	\$180, sellers
H'kong Rope M. Co....	\$10	\$23, sales & sellers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$162 1/2, sales & sel.
China Fire	\$20	\$114, sales & buy.
China Traders	\$25	\$92, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$375, sellers
North China	£5	Tls. 106
Union	\$100	\$847 1/2
Yangtze	\$60	\$230
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$104 1/2, sales & sel.
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	9, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sellers
Shanghai Land.....	Tls. 50	Tls. 119, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$43 1/2, buyers
Mining—		
S. F. des C. du T'kin	Fr. 250	\$625, buyers
Raub	18/10d.	\$7 1/2, sellers
Peak Tramways Co., Ltd	\$10	\$13 1/2, sellers
Philippine Co., Ltd....	\$1	\$140, sellers
Philippine Co., Ltd....	\$10	\$8 1/2, buyers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$153, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$20, buyers
Robinson Piano Co. ...	\$50	\$50, sellers
Steamship Companies—		
China and Manila...	\$25	\$8 1/2, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$33, sellers
H. Canton & M. ...	\$15	\$30 1/2, sales
Indo-China S. N. Co.	£5	\$41, buyers
Shell Transport Co.	£4	\$19, buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$26, sales & buy.
South China M. Post...	\$5	\$14 1/2, sellers
Steam Laundry Co....	\$5	\$23 1/2, buyers
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M. & Co....	\$10	\$12
Wm. Powell, Ltd....	\$7	\$3, sellers
Watkins, Ltd....	\$10	\$5, sellers
Watson & Co., A.S.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Weissmann, Ltd....	\$100	\$150
United Asbestos	\$1	\$12 1/2, sellers.
Union Waterboat Co....	\$10	\$300
Rubbers—		
Balgownie	—	\$69 (Sts.)
Pegohs	—	\$25 (ts.), sel.
Ragallas	—	\$29 (Sts.)
Anglo-Malays	—	15/6, sellers
Castlefields, fully p.	—	53/6, sales
Consolidated Malays	—	£6-12-6
Domansaras	—	£4-3-0
H'lands & L'lands...	—	67/6
Kamunings	—	3/9, sellers
Kuala Lumpur	—	95/-
Ledbury's	—	£25 0, buyers
Linggis	—	24/6, sellers
Sapongs	—	23/-, sellers
Shelfords	—	35/-, sellers
Sungei-Kapars	—	£3-15-0

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

4th November, 1909.

COMPANY.	PAID UP	QUOTATION
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$1,025
National of China...	£6	\$65, buyers
Russo-Chinese	R187 1/2	Tls. 125
Insurance—		
Union Society C'tn	\$100	\$847 1/2, sales
North-China	£5	Tls. 106, buyers
Yangtze Assocn. ...	\$60	\$230, buyers
Canton	\$50	\$172 1/2, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$380, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$114, buyers
Shipping—		
Indo-China { pref. }	£5	Tls. 44 1/2, buyers
Shell Trans. { ord. }	£1	£3.11 6
& Trading { pref. }	£10	£9.10.0
S'hai Tug & { pref. }	£50	Tls. 42, sales
Lighter { ord. }	T50	Tls. 52, buyers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 45
Kochien Transport-	T50	Tls. 47 1/2, sales
ation & To Boat		
Docks & Wharves—		
S'hai Dock & Eng...	T100	Tls. 77, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$55, sellers
S. & H'kew Wharf...	T100	Tls. 138
H. K'loon W. & G...	\$50	\$63, sellers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 200, sellers
Sugar Companies—		
Perak Cultivation...	T50	Tls. 335, sellers
China Refining	\$100	\$146, buyers
Mining—		
Raub Australian ...	£1	Tls. \$8, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	£1	Tls. 19, ex. div. b.
Lands—		
S'hai Investment ...	T50	Tls. 119, buyers
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$104, buyers
Humphreys' Estate	T10	\$94, sellers
Weiheifui	T20	Tls. 9
China	T50	Tls. 50
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 106, sales
Plantations—		
Kalumpung Rubber	T50	Tls. 237 1/2, buyers
Chempedak		Tls. 11, sales
S. R'ber Estates ...	T100	Tls. 300, sales
T. R. & T. Estate Co.	£1	Tls. 17 1/2, sales
Dominion Rubbers..	T6	Tls. 13 1/2, buyers
Shanghai-Sumatra		
Tobacco	T20	Tls. 103, buyers
Cottons, etc.—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 149 1/2
Internationals	T75	Tls. 90
Laou Kung Mow ...	T100	Tls. 111
Soy Chees	T500	Tls. 460, sellers
H.C.S.W.D.Co., Ltd.	\$10	Tls. 6, sales
Shanghai Cotton ...	T50	Tls. 77, sellers
Eastern Fibre	£10	Tls. 10
Industrial—		
Maatschappij, &c., in Langkat.....	Gs. 100	Tls. 760, sellers
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 106, buyers
Major Brothers.....	T50	Tls. 52 1/2
Shanghai Ice	T25	Tls. 15
China Flour Mill ...	T50	Tls. 62, sales
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 35, buyers
Green Is. Cement....	\$10	\$7 1/2, sellers
S'hai Waterworks....	£20	Tls. 425, sales
Anglo-Gen. Brewery	\$100	\$82 1/2, buyers
A. Butler Cement,		
Tile Works	T50	Tls. 23 1/2, sales
Shanghai Electric	£10	£6.10.0
Construction		
China Im. & Ex.	T100	Tls. 75
Lumber		
Shanghai Electric & Asbestos	\$25	\$20 1/2, sellers
China Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50
Stores—		
Hall & Holtz	\$20	\$23, buyers
A. Llewellyn	\$60	\$65
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Central Ordinary ...	\$15	\$17, sellers
Central Founders...	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co. ...	\$50	\$40
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$26, sales
Lane, Crawford & Co.	\$100	\$165, sales
Dunning & Co.	\$50	\$35
Hotels—		
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$20, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$72 1/2
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	Tls. 5 1/2
Tsingtao Hotel	\$100	Ts. 75
Miscellaneous—		
S'hai Horse Bazar...	T50	Tls. 55
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 67, sellers
Dallas Horse Repository	T70	Tls. 25

J. P. BISSET & Co.

EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, November 12th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills, on demand	1/8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9 $\frac{3}{4}$
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9 $\frac{3}{4}$
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	218 $\frac{1}{2}$
Credits 4 months' sight	222 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	177 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	42 $\frac{1}{2}$
Credits, 60 days' sight	43 $\frac{3}{4}$
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	129 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank, on demand	129 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	129 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank on demand	129 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	74 $\frac{1}{2}$
Private, 30 days' sight	75 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	84 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	85 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	74
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	104 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.m.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	38 $\frac{1}{2}$
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11.50
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	\$60.40
BAR SILVER per oz	23 $\frac{3}{4}$

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. in their Share Report for the week ending November 4th state:—Very little business has taken place during the past week; no sales being reported on the 30th, and the Stock Exchange was closed on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th owing to the Race Meeting. The sales reported are as following:—Friday, the 29th. Shanghai Lands at Tls. 119. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares at Tls. 140 $\frac{1}{2}$ December. International Cotton at Tls. 92 December. China Flours at Tls. 63 $\frac{1}{2}$ December. In Rubbers:—Tebongs at Tls. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ cash and Tls. 18 for December. Almas at Tls. 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ and Tls. 14 for cash. Kroewoeks at Tls. 16. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats at Tls. 770 and Tls. 772 $\frac{1}{2}$ for December. The closing quotations are as under. T. T. on London 2/3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 12th November.—There is only a limited enquiry for tonnage. From Saigon to this, 3 cents per picul; to Philippines, 21/25 cents according to quantity. From Newchwang to Canton, six more boats closed, but owing to high price of beans at loading port, no further tonnage is likely to be required this season. Coal freights continue firm due to scarcity of suitable boats. From Moji to this, \$1.75 last; Singapore, \$2.75; Swatow, \$2.20; Canton, \$2.60.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

November:—	
ARRIVALS.	
6, Cheongshing, British str., from Tientsin.	
6, Chunsang, British str., from Sourabaya.	
7, Aldenham, British str., from Kobe.	
7, Chinhua, British str., from Shanghai.	
7, Haitan, British str., from Amoy.	
7, Proteus, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.	
7, Siam, British str., from Langkat.	
7, Singan, British str., from Haiphong.	
7, Tourane, French str., from Yokohama.	
7, Tsinafu, Chinese str., from Tsingtau.	
8, Iyo Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.	
8, Keongwai, German str., from Samarang.	
8, Kueichow, British str., from Tientsin.	
8, Kumsang, British str., from Calcutta.	
8, Rubi, British str., from Manila.	
8, Taikosan Maru, Jap. str., from Taiwan.	
9, Braemar, Brit. str., from Sabang.	
9, Capri, Italian str., from Bombay.	
9, Choshun Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.	
9, Haimun, Br. str., from Swatow.	
9, Hopsang, British str., from Hongay.	

9, Kohsichang, German str., from Bangkok.	
9, Phranang, German str., from Bangkok.	
9, Tenyo M., Jap. str., from San Francisco.	
9, Tong Hong, British str., from Singapore.	
9, Yeboshi Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.	
10, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.	
10, Chenan, British str., from Shanghai.	
10, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	
10, Deucalion, Br. str., from Singapore.	
10, Haiyang, British str., from Swatow.	
10, Kaifong, British str., from Cebu.	
10, Marie, German str., from Java.	
10, Tungus, Norwegian str., from Tsingtau.	
10, Victoria, Swedish str., from Haiphong.	
11, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.	
11, Daijin Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.	
11, Assaye, British str., from Bombay.	
11, Bushu Maru, Jap. str., from Mororan.	

DEPARTURES.

6, Cyclops, British str., for Manila.	
6, E. of China, British str., for Shanghai.	
6, Fitzpatrick, British str., for Shanghai.	
6, Samsen, German str., for Bangkok.	
6, Sexta, German str., for Saigon.	
6, Tjibodas, Dutch str., for Batavia.	
6, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.	
7, Changsha, British str., for Australia.	
7, Chihli, British str., for Weihaiwei.	
7, Daiji Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.	
7, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.	
7, Heliopolis, British str., for Durban.	
7, Knivsberg, German str., for Hoihow.	
7, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.	
7, Linan, British str., for Shanghai.	
7, Mandasan Maru, Jap. str., for Miike.	
7, Shimosa, British str., for Shanghai.	
7, Totomi Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.	
8, Siam, British str., for Amoy.	
9, Glenloch, British str., for Shanghai.	
9, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.	
9, Kaga Maru, Japanese str., for Shanghai.	
9, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.	
9, Tean, British str., for Manila.	
9, Tourane, French str., for Europe, &c.	
9, Triumph, German str., for Pakhoi.	
9, Yatshing, British str., for Shanghai.	
10, Bramar, British str., for Nagasaki.	
10, Eclipse, British ship, for New York.	
10, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.	
10, Iyo Maru, Japanese str., for Singapore.	
10, Paklat, German str., for Bangkok.	
10, Tientsin, British str., for Shanghai.	
11, Aldenham, British str., for Sydney.	
11, Capri, Italian str., for Singapore.	
11, Cheongshing, British str., for Weihaiwei.	
11, Choshun Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.	
11, Kueichow, British str., for Tientsin.	
11, Nanchang, British str., for Newchwang.	
11, Proteus, Norwegian str., for Swatow.	
11, Singan, British str., for Hoihow.	
11, Yeboshi Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.	

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Cheongshing, from Tientsin, Miss Long.	
Per Phranang, from Bangkok, Lieut. M. Schelberg.	
Per Haitan, from Amoy, Count Von Moltke, Dr. Teil and Mr Hoder.	
Per Chenan, Rev. W. G. Leverett, Dr. Paul, Messrs Landes and H. S. Kennett.	
Per Loongsang, from Manila, Messrs Abel, Jackson, H. Pascude, M. Banks and M. A. Belem.	
Per Choysang, from Shanghai, &c., Mrs Wolley, Mrs Low and two children, and Mr J. McDonald.	
Per Choshun Maru, from Swatow, Messrs Delbours, Res. Jase Romas, Clark and Broughton.	
Per Chinhua, from Shanghai, Mr and Mrs Maxwell, Messrs Mackie, Hamer, Hill, Buyers and Dudley.	
Per Kumsang, from Calcutta, &c., Mr and Mrs Elliot and family, Messrs G. A. Malcoln and E. L. Watson.	
Per Kueichow, from Tientsin, Mr and Mrs Muir, Misses Everett and Oakley, Master Duncan and Mr Cruickshank.	
Per Rubi, from Manila, Mr and Mrs Ramirez, Mr and Mrs Aug. Santo and 4 children, Dr. and Mrs E. P. Huff, Lt. and Mrs Hasson, Mrs M. A. Butler, Miss C. E. Robinson, Doctors H. Butts, U.S.A., Wieber, U.S.A., and S. L. Higgins, Messrs J. W. Ford, A. Rodgers, J. D. C. Rodgers, S. L. Berrouges, H. C. Fassett, A. Mackillof, J. Murphy and M. E. Paires.	

Per Haiyang, from Swatow, Messrs L. J. Thomas and MacKenzie.

Per Haimun, from Swatow, Messrs Reader Harris, I. Tham and G. Koenig.

Per Zafiro, from Manila, Mr and Mrs James, Mr and Mrs Wolfe, Mr and Mrs Wood, Mr and Mrs Raymond, Mrs and Miss Graff, Mrs Palmer, Mrs Hochman, Messrs J. W. Sidebottom, A. D. Gibbs and W. B. Ramsay.

Per Soudan, from Chingwantao, for Hongkong, Lt. and Mrs Q. M. Stainforth, Rev. and Mrs Ennis, S. Q. M. S. and Mrs Andus and child, Capt. and Mrs W. D. Dooner, Misses Leesin and Leary, Lt. G. L. Basoter, Lt. A. M. Speedling, Lt. A. J. Douglas, Captains F. G. Turner, R. Johnstone, A. B. Robertson, R. Campbell, Logan and Master Waters; for Madras, Col. and Mrs M. S. Riach, Major and Mrs G. F. Hamilton, Major and Mrs Lachlan, S. Major and Mrs J. Patrick and children, B.M. and Mrs H. Fisher and children, Q.M.S. W. Patchett, Q.M.S. R. Sutton, Lt. N. C. Taylor, Lt. P. B. Trotter, Lt. T. W. Erskine, Lieut. L. R. C. Hamilton, Lieut. A. Macalister, Lt. W. J. Maxwell, Lt. A. Macduff, Lt. H. C. Methuen, Lt. A. Y. G. Thomson, Lt. D. M. Morison, Captains A. M. Fraser, A. D. Pherson, P. Milford and Cowan, and Mr J. Gonsalves; for Bombay, Major and Mrs Thompson and child, Mrs Kennick and children, Miss Mimukin, Q.M.S. W. Bailey, Lt. Queen, Lt. C. S. D. Aguilar and Capt. Siberey.

Per Assaye, for Hongkong, from London, Mrs Hepwell, Misses Martin, Goldie and Bradley, Revs. J. Martin and Rogers; from Marseilles, Misses F. E. Otway and M. Hernandez, Messrs G. M. Pakin and B. Hernandez; from Bombay, Messrs Navsariwalla and Shai-kadum; from Penang, Lt. Innes and servant; from Singapore, Mr and Mrs H. T. Fraser, Messrs C. B. Yen, E. A. A. Martins and R. Furness; for Shanghai, from London, Lady French and maid, Misses Rotby and Stewart, Doctors Brown and Babel Wilkinson, Messrs G. S. Heffer, E. A. Slee and E. Wilkinson; from Marseilles, Archdeacon and Mrs Moule, and Mr D. K. Stewart; for Nagasaki, from London, Mrs F. King; for Yokohama, from London, Mr and Mrs Dallas, Mr and Mrs D. Vigor, Misses B. Forsyth, L. Dundas, J. Harcourt and H. Russell, Rev. F. France, Messrs C. Vane, E. Granby and S. Lopez; from Marseilles, Messrs W. H. Pitts and W. A. Hirst; from Bombay, Miss Kirby and Mr Armstrong Smith; from Singapore, Messrs G. McLeod, S. Geach, A. Alves, H. Nevill, Roy Smith and 6 servants.

DEPARTED.

Per Empress of China, for Vancouver, Mr and Mrs Lepessier, Mrs and Miss Homley, Mrs Davis, Lieut. Uri, U.S.A., Lieut. C. Colson, Messrs W. M. Weston, Porter, S. Awasaki, A. Hiroshima, Scott, C. D. Clarke, Geo. Thomson, C. Graham, J. A. Campbell, Arthur Surmont, Orel, Anare Schipman, Abert Seys and S. D. Thompson.

Per Kaga Maru, for Seattle, &c., Mr and Mrs W. Armstrong, Mr and Mrs A. A. Alvares and infant, Mr and Mrs Bribosia, Mr and Mrs Foster, Mrs Land and infant, Mrs Yayeki, Mrs E. J. Figuerido, Mrs M. A. Butler, Misses P. de Souza, J. and M. Goodfellow, Dr. S. L. Higgins, Dr. W. Jennings, Messrs Z. S. J. Baronian, E. W. Spalding, J. Paterson, J. J. Hart Lorn and servant, Y. des Franco and servant, A. Koehn and servant, T. Asanuma, Kitora, Schroeder, H. J. King and K. Tsunoda.

Per Tourane, for Marseilles, &c., Mr and Mrs H. F. Dent, Mr, Mrs and Misses Kent, Mr and Mrs Boor Leblanc, Mr and Mrs Patrigeon, Mrs Downing, Mrs J. Quantin, Mrs G. Eugenie, Mrs R. M. Tabor, Mrs Fernandes, Mrs Esther, Mrs Hermann, Mrs G. Katz, Mrs Renée, Mrs Huet, Rev. Fr. Regessat, Rev. Fr. Peyris, Messrs F. Kattenberg, A. Savoya, E. Dorfman, J. Mesco, R. E. Allara, A. S. Walcott, G. Mathien, Fabre Gouineau, Meudec, L. Mouret, Petit, Le Thiess, Jouanneau, Stork, A. Cohen, A. Huet, A. Linochi, P. Carty, J. Guyomar, E. Gariel, A. Bellec, B. Bonarin, Borsischa, B. E. Bayer, B. N. Ezra, S. Assaad, Tronabois, E. Eggell, Sergeant, Reverdy and Beauvois.

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